

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

Written by

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EXT. IDYLLIC COUNTRYSIDE VILLAGE - AFTERNOON

We're introduced to a beautiful countryside village. In amongst the serenity of the area, we hear the faint sound of chatter and music in the distance.

EXT. GARDEN - WEDDING RECEPTION - AFTERNOON

Members of the wedding party are saying their congratulations to the bride and groom via a videographer's camera.

WEDDING GUEST 1
Congratulations! You are the most
beautiful couple. (Raise glasses)

WEDDING GUEST 2
We love you, Karina!

The two Wedding Guests *clink* their glasses together and drink.

In the back of shot we reveal a woman looking at the food laid out on a spread.

NIAMH
(Out loud to herself
sarcastically, while
looking at a scotch egg)
"Darling, we must have scotch eggs
at the wedding. It wouldn't be a
wedding without scotch eggs."

TOBY
(surprises Niamh)
I've already had 5.

NIAMH
5!? Christ.

TOBY
Mum says I'll turn into one if I
have anymore.

NIAMH
Who's your Mum?

TOBY
She's over there. In the green
dress.

Niamh looks over and sees ZOE. She recognises her, and looks disgusted.

NIAMH
Well, at least you wont turn into
her.

Pause.

TOBY
I'm Toby. Will you be my friend?

NIAMH
(faux enthusiasm)
You know what, Toby?

Niamh leans down to get closer to Toby.

NIAMH (CONT'D)
Probably not.

Toby stares blankly at Niamh and takes a bite out of another
scotch egg.

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EXT. WEDDING VENUE - GARDEN - AFTERNOON

JOHN finds a seat at a circular table inhabited by members of
the wedding party. Including the bride's mother, LISA and her
friends.

LISA
Haven't they done a wonderful job
with the flowers?

SAMANTHA
Oh, yeah. Amazing. I wouldn't even
know where to start.

MICHELLE
Probably with the seeds.

They're a bit tipsy. They all laugh hysterically.

John is trying to dig out some ice cream from a tub on the
table. The ice cream is rock hard.

LISA
Have you seen David?

MICHELLE
Last time I saw him, he was with
Dylan, lecturing him about the
virtues of a resilient wood stain.

John has a clump of ice cream on his spoon. He's frantically flicking his spoon trying to get the ice cream into a bowl.

LISA

Oh, tremendous. Mind you, if like me, you've ever had the misfortune of dealing with David's dirty washing, you'd know that stains are a real talen...

John flicks his hand aggressively and the ice cream flies onto SAMANTHA's knee next to him.

JOHN

Shit.

LISA

Exactly.

John reactively puts his hand out and onto Samantha's knee to grab the ice cream.

SAMANTHA

(surprised, a bit pleased.)

Oooh.

Samantha winks at John.

JOHN

Shit.

Everyone is interrupted by the sound of cutlery tapping glass.

DAVID

Ladies and gentlemen, could I have your attention, please. For those of you who don't know me, my name is David, and I would just like to announce, I am available for all your gardening and landscaping requirements. My number, email, and instagram account are written on an A4 piece of paper on the wall in there, along with the wifi code.

Lisa and the bride, Karina, look mortified. David looks at Niamh and she gives him two big thumbs up.

DAVID (CONT'D)

However, I am also the father of this wonderful woman.

David motions to Karina.

Thank you all for coming here today
to celebrate the marriage of our
beautiful daughter Karina, to
Dylan.

David looks earnestly at Lisa, and then Karina.

DAVID (CONT'D)

34 years ago, Karina was born, so I
knew that this day would come at
some point. I didn't know when, but
I knew it was going to happen. So
you would think I've had a lot of
time to prepare for this. But I
don't think anything can prepare
you for the day you stand up here,
as the father of the bride. I've
been told I'm supposed to tell you
a story about Karina. But, if I'm
honest, I don't think I'll be able
to get through one without crying.

We see pictures of David, Lisa, and Karina placed around the
garden.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Of course, I never used to be like
this. But, since the moment Karina
was born, with every day, I've
grown softer, and the love in my
heart has grown stronger. Karina,
thank you for teaching me
everything you know about the
world, and for giving me the joy of
seeing it through your eyes. In a
lot of ways, you've brought me up,
made me a better father, and a
better man.

Niamh watches on in silence, feeling somewhat lonely.

DAVID (CONT'D)

For years, I've done my best to
guide you and look after you, and
now I have the honour of being able
to hand over that responsibility to
Dylan. And as I look around, I can
comfortably say, you are surrounded
by a entire army of people who love
you so much... Just perhaps not as
much as I do.

People are tearing up. Across the garden Niamh spots Zoe with ROBIN. They have their arms around each other, and are smiling. Niamh turns away in disgust, and sees Toby stealing a phone out of a handbag. Niamh cracks a small smile.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Karina and Dylan, I would like to be the first to wish you all the love, happiness and prosperity in the world. Ladies, and gentlemen, please stand and raise a glass to this fantastic couple. Mr and Mrs Matthews.

The garden toasts.

INT. BAR - WEDDING VENUE - EVENING

The wedding party is in full swing. Niamh is standing at the bar squinting at the menu on the back wall.

NIAMH

Can I have a pint of cider and a "slippery nipple", please?

Barman nods.

SOL

What's a slippery nipple?

NIAMH

Dunno. But it sounds like it might liven things up a bit.

BARMAN

A slippery nipple is a layered shot, consisting of grenadine, sambuca, and Baileys.

Niamh theatrically gesticulates to Sol, the videographer as if to say "now you know".

SOL

I'm Sol by the way.

NIAMH

OK.

SOL

(motions to his camera)
Would you like to?

NIAMH
Absolutely not.

BARMAN
When done well, each layer of
alcohol should sit on top of each
other perfectly.

The barman pushes across two slippery nipples.

SOL
Oh, no. I don't want one, thanks.
Working.

The barman stares at Sol, and without breaking eye contact,
goes to take one back.

NIAMH
Hold on.

Niamh takes her first shot.

SOL
(staring at the second
shot)
Why can't I see the individual
layers?

BARMAN
Because I'm not a very good barman.

Niamh takes the second shot. As she does, Robin approaches
the bar.

ROBIN
Hello, Niamh. You're looking well.

NIAMH
Fuck off, Robin.

SOL
Oh, do you two know each other?

ROBIN
Niamh and I have been friends for
years, haven't we! Cheer up. This
is the best day of your sister's
life.

NIAMH
I refuse to believe this is the
best day of anyone's life.

ROBIN
Why's that?

NIAMH
Because you're here.

ROBIN
It's nice to see you haven't lost
your sense of humour.

NIAMH
Why would I?

ROBIN
Well, you know. Look around, look
at everyone together. Coupled up.
Happy. Have you brought a plus one?

NIAMH
(sips her drink)
Nope.

ROBIN
Didn't think so. Such a shame
really.
(bit creepy)
You really can be quite lovely.

Niamh takes a large sip of her cider.

NIAMH
I see you've adopted a child.

SOL
Oh, congratulations.

NIAMH
(sarcastically)
Yes. Congratulations.

ROBIN
What?... Oh, right. Yes, Toby. Yes,
he's a cool guy.

NIAMH
A cool guy?

We see Toby in the corner, standing on a chair, flicking the
light switch on and off. No one seems to notice, or care.

SOL
How old is he?

ROBIN
Somewhere between 4 and 9 I think.

NIAMH
(sarcastically)
So hard to tell isn't it. He could
be in year 1, he could be in year
4, which classroom do I wait
outside when I pick him up from
school today? Or, do I just lurk by
the front gates and hope no one
calls the police again.

Pause.

Sol awkwardly pauses and looks at Zoe and Robin, then tries
his luck at asking them if they want a picture by sheepishly
pointing at the camera. He already knows the answer.

Pause.

ROBIN
Anyway, I must get back. My lovely
girlfriend will be wondering where
I am.

Robin starts to walk away, he then turns around.

ROBIN (CONT'D)
(smugly)
Have you met Zoe?

EXT. GARDEN - WEDDING RECEPTION - EVENING

John is walking around the tables in the garden, searching
for any leftover alcohol. He finds a half drunk glass of red,
and a tops it up with the dregs from a few other bottles of
different kinds.

DAVID
Good stuff that isn't it.

JOHN
Sorry. I was just tidying... umm,
yes, It's very nice.

DAVID
I've just come out to get some
fresh air. The Dirty Dancing theme
came on, and I heard Lisa screaming
from the dance floor. She's like
William Wallace when she's pissed.

John smiles and nods.

DAVID (CONT'D)
How do you know Dylan then? I
assume you're a friend of Dylan's
as I've not seen you in any of
Karina's pictures.

JOHN
Oh, yeah. Dylan and I have been
friends for years. We met at...
uni.

DAVID
Oh, great. What did you study?

JOHN
Err... management?

DAVID
(with no hint of irony)
Nice. It's good to have a few more
leaders in the world.

John doesn't know how to take that. Was David being
sarcastic? Should he be proud of his lie or not? He's about
to take a sip of wine.

DAVID (CONT'D)
What do you do?

JOHN
Just pour it in a glass a drink it.
Doesn't even need to be a glass
really. Mug would be fine.

DAVID
No. For a living.

JOHN
Oh. I'm a international logistics
liaison, part time.

Pause.

DAVID
(doesn't know what that
means)
Cool.

JOHN
What do you do?

DAVID
Gardener, details are on the...

David turns to point inside.

JOHN
(nodding)
On the wall at the back.

David and John stand in silence for a moment.

DAVID
Cool.

JOHN
Cool.

More silence.

DAVID
Do you watch Eggheads?

JOHN
No. Can't say I do.

DAVID
No. Me neither. I can't understand
why it's still on TV... Lisa loves
it though.

At that moment Karina walks out into the garden.

KARINA
There you are Dad! Come on, we've
all been looking for you.

Karina, grabs David's arm and goes to pull him back inside.
David smiles at John and introduces himself as he's pulled
away.

DAVID
David.

JOHN
(smiling politely)
John.

INT. WEDDING VENUE - EVENING

Lisa, Samantha and Michelle are all dancing on the dance
floor. David and Karina walk towards them. As they do so,
Karina notices Niamh at the bar and branches off to get her.

KARINA
(grabbing Niamh by the
shoulders)
There you are!

NIAMH
Here I am!

There's a slightly awkward pause.

KARINA
Have you had a good day?

NIAMH
Me!? Have you had a good day. Look
at you! You're bloody married. Your
husband might be named after that
smack-head rabbit from the magic
roundabout but...

KARINA
But...

NIAMH
(trying)
Karina, this is the best day ever.

KARINA
Thank you. Now come and dance,
please. I need someone to help me
deal with Mum and Dad.

They both look over at David and Lisa. Lisa is hammered,
swinging with her arms around David's neck. David looks like
he's trying to fight off a hernia.

NIAMH
Jesus.

KARINA
Yeah.

John has walked in and is watching them from across the room.
He scans the scene and is careful to note where Dylan is, so
as to not have to speak to him.

Samantha spots John from across the room, and winks at him
again.

John is about to walk off before Robin interrupts him.

ROBIN
Mate, you haven't got a fag I could
steal off you have you?

JOHN

No. Sorry. I don't smoke.

ROBIN

Really? It's just, you look like you smoke.

JOHN

Sorry.

ROBIN

(drunk, arrogantly)
Right. Well, do you think you could go and get me one? In fact, probably 2, I might want one later. Cheers, mate.

JOHN

(smiling, ostensibly earnest)
Sure... mate.

Zoe comes over to Robin.

ZOE

Have you seen Toby?

ROBIN

Err... No. Do you want another drink?

ZOE

(slightly concerned)
Well, we should find Toby first. And anyway, I'm driving.

ROBIN

He's probably asleep under a table somewhere.

INT. DANCEFLOOR - NIGHT

Niamh is dancing with David and a drunk Lisa.

LISA

Are you having a nice time?

NIAMH

Yes, Li... why is everyone asking me if I'm having a nice time?

LISA

We're just worried about you,
poppet. We just want to make sure
you're ok.

NIAMH

Yeah, I'm fine. I'm having a
brilliant ti...

DAVID

She's fine, Lisa. Leave her alone.
But seriously though, are you
having a nice time? Is there
anything we can do to make this
more fun?

NIAMH

Have you got any drugs?

DAVID

I think I've got some Roundup in
the van.

Niamh smiles.

LISA

Michelle's got some paracetamol in
her purse.

NIAMH

Alright, Keith Richards...

EXT. CAR PARK - WEDDING VENUE - NIGHT

John is leaning up against a wall in the car park smoking a
cigarette. Niamh comes walking out of the venue door and
exhales loudly.

NIAMH

Fucking hell.

She stands there for a moment to gather herself, then looks
to the side and sees John.

NIAMH (CONT'D)

Sorry. I didn't realise you were
here... actually, do you have a
spare?

He hands Niamh a cigarette.

JOHN

Last one.

They stand there smoking, and calmly watch as Toby is letting the air down on a car tire in the car park.

JOHN (CONT'D)

To be honest. I don't even smoke. I was given these in there by a woman who clearly wants to eat me. I'm only smoking them because some bellend wanted them.

Niamh is watching Toby.

NIAMH

You know what, part of me wants to hate that kid. But I actually quite like him.

At that moment, Sol walks out into the car park.

NIAMH (CONT'D)

Alright, Sol.

SOL

Has anyone seen a little boy named Toby.

Niamh and John point to the car park.

SOL (CONT'D)

Oh, good. Some posh orc in there ordered me to go and find him.

Sol leans up against the wall with Niamh and John. Taking in the night's air. After a moment, Sol takes out his camera, and takes a couple of pictures of John and Niamh. He takes a look at them, smiles, then goes back to leaning against the wall.

Robin then bursts into the car park, drunk.

ROBIN

Oh, hey guys. Have you seen Toby.

Toby is walking back from the car he was just messing around with.

Sol, Niamh and John point to him.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

Ahh. There you are, you little sod.

Robin turns his attention to the 3 of them by the wall.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

Mate, have you got that cigarette I asked for?

JOHN

Sorry. Just gave her my last one.

Niamh smiles. Robin feels a bit threatened.

ROBIN

Is this the smoker's union now is it? Fucking state of you.

He tries to pick on them.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

So we've got One Hour Photo (points at Sol), John Doe (John), and Calamity Jane (Niamh).

NIAMH

That's quite good for you, Robin.

It's not good.

ROBIN

(exasperated)

Is this some kind of wedding secret society? Well, as you can probably tell, I've got a few quid, and I'm part of a couple of secret societies of my own.

JOHN

Is one of them a peadophile ring?

Sol and Niamh laugh. Niamh is intrigued by John. Zoe comes out into the car park with coats for Robin and Toby.

ZOE

Come on. It's time to go.

Robin frustratedly walks towards the car with her, and she takes Toby's hand on the way.

SOL

Isn't that the car that...

NIAMH

Yep.

Smiling, John stubs his cigarette out on the wall, and carries it with him as he walks off.

JOHN
See ya.

SOL
Let's go inside.

Sol and Niamh turn to head inside the venue, just as they do, Dylan comes out.

DYLAN
Oh, hey guys! Sneaking out for a smoke are we? Who's your friend?
(nods towards John)

Niamh and Sol pause and look at each other.

NIAMH
Dunno, actually.

They go inside.

INT. KITCHEN - NIAMH'S HOUSE - MORNING - DAYS AFTER THE WEDDING

Niamh is in her pyjamas, groggy, waiting for the kettle to boil.

NIAMH
Ugh.

She can hear the sound of a Microsoft Teams call coming through on the laptop in her bedroom. As she walks through the house to get to her bedroom, you can see pictures of Karina and Dylan on the walls.

Niamh walks up to the laptop and sees the word "BRAINSTORM". She immediately shuts it.

Niamh walks back to the kitchen, back to the kettle. On the fridge she sees a post-it note that reads "Gone honeymoonin'. Don't forget to feed Bramble."

Niamh looks down and sees Bramble the cat look up at her.

NIAMH (CONT'D)
Alright, Bramble.

Niamh gets a tin of tuna from the cupboard and decants it into a bowl for the cat.

Niamh picks up the kettle and her phone rings.

NIAMH (CONT'D)

Ugh...

(she answers)

Hello?

INT. NIAMH'S OFFICE - MORNING

GILL

Niamh, where are you? You're supposed to be on a brainstorm with everyone else right now.

INT. KITCHEN - NIAMH'S HOUSE - MORNING

NIAMH

Oh yeah, I'm trying. I keep refreshing it. I just seem to be having problems with the internet.

INT. NIAMH'S OFFICE - MORNING

GILL

I've been round your place. The internet is amazing.

INT. KITCHEN - NIAMH'S HOUSE - MORNING

NIAMH

It is quite good isn't it.

INT. NIAMH'S OFFICE - MORNING

GILL

It is! So why aren't you on?

NIAMH

Well, I'm actually about to go to my parents house... and their internet is shit. So I'm basing it on that. Cheers!

Niamh hangs up and exhales, then pours herself a drink.

EXT. HIGH STREET - MORNING

John is dressed in a shirt, tie and trousers on his way to work, he walks along the town high street and into the travel agents.

INT. TRAVEL AGENTS OFFICE - MORNING

ANIF

John... Just where do you think
you've been?

JOHN

Shop.

ANIF

Yeah, and...

JOHN

Lion bar.

ANIF

Nice.

John throws Anif a lion bar but Anif fails to catch it and it
lands on the floor. Anif stares blankly at John, then motions
to his wheelchair.

Pause.

They laugh, Anif bends down and picks it up.

JOHN

Have you made any bookings yet?

ANIF

No. What am I, the internet?

JOHN

Fair.

ANIF

I have got an appointment with Mr
Malcolm Pembridge later though.

JOHN

(Faux excitement)

Ooooh!

(normal)

Who's that?

ANIF

I don't know. But he sounds old,
and keen to do business with a
"proper English person" face to
face. So I can't wait for when he
turns up and sees an Asian man in a
wheelchair.

JOHN

Good.

John has a lick of his ice cream.

ANIF

What did you do at the weekend?

JOHN

Wedding.

ANIF

Who's was it?

JOHN

Dunno.

ANIF

You don't know who's wedding you went to?

JOHN

Nope.

ANIF

So why did you go?... HOW did you go?

JOHN

Well, you know I'm shit at my job...

ANIF

Yeah.

JOHN

And you know I've been picking up some hospitality shifts on the side to earn a bit more cash.

ANIF

Yeah.

JOHN

The shift on Saturday was at a wedding. I thought I'd bring my suit along just in case it was good. It was pretty good, so I got changed into it early and spent most of the time minesweeping booze.

John throws an invitation picked up at the wedding over to Anif. Anif catches it.

ANIF
And no one noticed?

JOHN
Nope.

The phone rings. John answers.

JOHN (CONT'D)
Insignia travel. How can I help...
(listens patiently for a
few seconds)
Royal Caribbean? I'm really sorry
but this shop has vowed never to
work with them again.

John hangs up the phone. Anif reads the invitation.

ANIF
You are cordially invited to attend
the marriage of Mr and Mrs
Matthews...

John shrugs.

INT. DAVID AND LISA'S KITCHEN - MIDDAY

Lisa is sitting at the kitchen doing a crossword. The
backdoor flies open and Niamh strides in carrying a laptop
and a cat carrier with Bramble inside.

NIAMH
Bramble.

She immediately puts bramble on the table.

LISA
Hello, darling. Nice to see you
too.

NIAMH
Is the internet working?

LISA
Not really.

NIAMH
Perfect.

Niamh sits down, smiles and starts drinking from Lisa's mug
of tea.

NIAMH (CONT'D)
Where's David?

LISA
He's brainstorming.

NIAMH
Oh, they've got him on board as
well have they?

LISA
He apparently had a good thought in
the shower last week and ever since
then he's been having about 4
showers a day to come up with even
more... so he says.

NIAMH
(confused)
What?

LISA
Oh, I know.

David overhears this, and starts talking from down the
hallway.

DAVID
Judge a tree from its fruit, not
from its leaves - Monty Don.

LISA
(says softly to Niamh)
Or Euripides.

David is now standing in the kitchen wearing just a towel.

DAVID
Hello, Bramble.

David approaches the cat carrier to try and stroke Bramble.
The cat attacks him.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Aaah.
(sucks him thumb)

Contrary to BOTH of your
expectations. I've done it again,
I've come up with a wonderful idea.
I'm glad you're here, darling.
(looking at Niamh)

(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)
Because, I, your humble David, have
secured you a date this evening.

LISA
(laughing)
You what?

NIAMH
(not laughing)
Yeah. You what?

DAVID
When I vowed to put my instagram
name on the wall at the wedding,
you all thought it was foolish. But
now... now I have you a date this
evening with a young admirer.

LISA
Who is it?

DAVID
I don't know.

NIAMH
What do you mean you don't know?

LISA
(laughing)
Where is it?

DAVID
Bricklayers Arms - after work.

NIAMH
So you've set me up on a date, with
a ghost? At the Brickies?

DAVID
Yes. Well, not yes. Yes to the
Brickies. But he's not a ghost,
he's very real. I just think it'll
be more fun as a bit of a blind
date.

NIAMH
It doesn't sound fun. It sounds
stressful.

LISA
(excited)
Oh, c'mon. How bad can it be.
(MORE)

LISA (CONT'D)

Everyone at that wedding was lovely, and they were there by invite. They were vetted.

NIAMH

Not everyone was lovely.

LISA

Oh, shush. Karina and Dylan invited them all. Don't you trust them? C'mon, it'll be fun.
(expectant)

NIAMH

Ugh. What did the message say?

LISA

Yes!

David goes to put his glasses on and nearly loses his towel.

DAVID

Steady!... Bare with. Nearly a bit too bare. It says...
(adjusts glasses)

"Dear David, I have long been an admirer of your green fingered work around town. However, what a surprise it was to me to see you had been growing your prettiest rose at home...

LISA

Aww...

NIAMH

Eurgh.

DAVID

... Would it be possible for you to relay to your youngest, Niamh, that she is cordially invited to attend a date with me this evening? I promise your rose will see plenty of sun.

NIAMH

Excruciating.

LISA

You're going! It's lovely.

DAVID

Perfect. Now go on, Lisa, give me a crossword clue.

LISA

Man ordered to take two tablets - 5 letters.

DAVID

David... why are my tablets actually?

NIAMH

(shakes her head)

EXT. HIGH STREET - AFTERNOON

John and Anif are walking along the high street.

JOHN

So run this plan by me again.

ANIF

Right, this month has been woeful.

JOHN

Every month is woeful, but I still don't understand, why that means we need to go out and buy fish and chips.

ANIF

Think about it, when Malcolm Pembridge comes later...

JOHN

(joking)
Ooooooh!

ANIF

Right, yeah well he's going to want some gold old fashioned service. Something that reminds him of the good times... a person, with a smile, probably a white person, but I can't do that. So... fish and chips.

JOHN

How do you know he's racist?

ANIF

He's called Malcolm, and he's in his 70s.

JOHN

(not quite ready to agree with Anif)

I don't think he'll be that keen on the travel agents smelling like a chip shop. And anyway, I don't know why you've dragged me along. I've got places to go this evening.

ANIF

Haven't we all. I need you because there's a step going into the fish and chip shop.

JOHN

Sounds illegal.

ANIF

Yeah, it's not, so I need you to go inside and get it for me.

JOHN

OK. But once we get back to the office I'm going.

ANIF

Deal.

INT. FISH AND CHIP SHOP - EARLY EVENING

JOHN

Hello. Two lots of fish and chips, for me and my friend out there, please. He would be in here but that shithouse step you've got means he can't come inside.

The young girl behind the counter looks at Anif, then at John.

CHIP SHOP GIRL

Do you want it open or wrapped?

JOHN

Oooh. Wrapped, please!

EXT. HIGH STREET - EARLY EVENING

John is walking back to the office with Anif, while eating chips.

JOHN

It's a weird question isn't it.
Open or wrapped? And inevitably,
you always end up changing your
mind anyway.

(eats another chip)

I mean, think about it, what other
things does that apply to? You
couldn't walk into John Lewis and
say "oh yeah, can I have that TV
open, please."

ANIF

A gift?

JOHN

Well, yeah. I suppose so.

ANIF

A cock?

(Anif looks down at his
crotch)

Open or wrapped?

They both laugh.

INT. BUS - EARLY EVENING

Niamh is sat on a bus into town. She is nervous and her mind
is racing about all the people it could be.

An elderly lady gets on the bus and sits next to her. Niamh
politely smiles to the lady and the lady takes that as an
opportunity to start some conversation.

OLD LADY

I really like your shoes.

Niamh spots Robin's car parked just up from the pub. Still
with a flat tire.

NIAMH

Oh, do fuck off!

The whole bus and the old lady are stunned. The gasping from
the people on the bus make Niamh realise.

NIAMH (CONT'D)
 Fuck. Shit. No. Not you. Sorry.
 Shit... Shiiit!

The woman is horrified. Niamh presses the bell and gets off the bus.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE TRAVEL AGENT'S - EARLY EVENING

John sees Anif back into the office.

JOHN
 Right then. Seeing as this office
 is apparently now as British as
 David Attenborough's testicles.
 I'll be off.

ANIF
 Cheers! I'll let you know how it
 goes.

EXT. STREET LEADING TO THE PUB - EARLY EVENING

Niamh takes another glance at Robin's car as she heads towards the pub. She shakes her head as she walks through the pub doors and to the bar.

NIAMH
 Pint of cider, please.

While the cider is being poured, Niamh tries to compose herself.

NIAMH (CONT'D)
 Fucking brilliant yeah. Why not let
 your surrogate father set you up
 with the biggest dickhead in the
 county.

SOL
 In the county? Well, that is rather
 impressive isn't it. I would say
 I've been called worse but I'm not
 strictly sure that's true.

NIAMH
 Oh, hi Sol...
 (Niamh takes her drink
 from the bar)
 What are you doing here?

SOL
Waiting for a friend.

Pause.

Sol nods at Niamh, hoping that she will realise. The delay feels endless.

NIAMH
Oh... Sol.

Sol laughs in relief.

NIAMH (CONT'D)
You.

SOL
Me.

NIAMH
Right... Sorry, this is...

SOL
Sorry.

NIAMH
(caring)
Sorry. No. Not sorry. Don't be
sorry, this is alright.

SOL
Alright.

NIAMH
... yeah.

SOL
Sorry. Well, I would offer you a
drink but it looks like you've
already got one.

NIAMH
... I'll have another one.

INT. TRAVEL AGENTS OFFICE - EVENING

Malcolm Pembridge walks in.

ANIF
Mr Pembridge! Hello. How are you?

MALCOLM

(warmly)

Very well thank you my friend. It's good to put a face to a voice finally.

ANIF

Please. Sit down. Have some fish and chips.

Malcolm looks at a sad looking greasy pile of fish and chips.

MALCOLM

You know what, Anif. I'd probably rather not. My wife has made a lovely dinner for me at home and I wouldn't want to spoil it.

ANIF

Have some chips.

Anif brandishes, multiple holiday brochures from beneath the desk. Malcolm laughs / smiles, and politely takes a chip that he doesn't want.

EXT. PUB BEER GARDEN - EVENING

Sol is staring at Niamh keenly, intently listening to her every word.

NIAMH

This is actually quite difficult, talking about myself. I mean, you know me a bit already. Err... I like cider, thank you for this one
(she motions to the second pint)

You obviously know Karina. Oooh, I also have a cat who lives with us. He's called Bramble.

SOL

Excellent. Why Bramble?

NIAMH

Umm... Because he's a bit of a prick.

SOL

Ah!

INT. TRAVEL AGENTS OFFICE - EVENING

ANIF

So, as I said, whatever you need to make your holiday special for you. We'll do it. I just want you to have the best holiday possible, Mr Pembridge... have some fish.

MALCOLM

(coughs)

Umm... Please, Anif. You can call me Malcolm. All these brochures are terrific, but really I'd just like to go back to the holiday we'd discussed over the phone.

Anif pushes forward the fish on a greasy bit of paper.

MALCOLM (CONT'D)

(slightly awkward)

Yes, you see Anif. My wife and I aren't as young as we once were.

(coughs)

ANIF

Nonsense!

MALCOLM

(finishes coughing)

Well... we aren't. It's a fact. Anyway, we travelled to Japan when we were a lot younger, and we've always wanted to go back. This luxury guided tour you're offering seems perfect. I think we would like to book. I just need to know a little bit more information about the transfers.

Malcolm coughs. Anif nods, but continues to nudge the fish towards Malcolm.

ANIF

(whisper)

Fish... (nods)

EXT. PUB BEER GARDEN - EVENING

The mood is now more deep and meaningful. There are 4 empty pint glasses on Niamh's side of the table.

NIAMH

The other night, at the wedding, a lot of people asked me if I was OK. Or if I was enjoying it. And I think, if I'm honest with myself I probably wasn't. My parents, not David and Lisa, my biological parents, they died when I was a baby. Just after I was born, they got married and went away on honeymoon, and they never came back. They got one of those dodgy little planes somewhere in Central America, and it crashed. And they never came back.

All the noise in the pub seems to have disappeared.

NIAMH (CONT'D)

David was my Dad's best friend. Him and Lisa, they already had Karina, they took me in and brought me up. And I love them for it. I do love them. But standing there and listening to David talk about his daughter like that... yeah. It's hard not to feel like an outsider... always looking in.

Sol is sat silently listening.

NIAMH (CONT'D)

It's all a bit funny really. Do you mind if I just nip to the loo?

SOL

(softly)

Not at all. Go ahead.

Niamh gets up from the table and walks away. Careful to compose herself. As she walks out of Sol's sight, his phone rings.

INT. TRAVEL AGENTS OFFICE - EVENING

Anif is on the phone. All you see if a close up of Anif's face as he talks.

ANIF

Hi mate, Mr Pembridge came.

INT. JOHN'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING

John is watching eggheads.

JOHN
Oh, yeah? Is he racist?

INT. TRAVEL AGENTS OFFICE - EVENING

ANIF
No, he's not racist. But he is
dead.

JOHN
He's what?

ANIF
He is not alive.

INT. JOHN'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING

JOHN
You murdered him because he wasn't
racist?

INT. TRAVEL AGENTS OFFICE - EVENING

ANIF
No. I didn't murder him. I offered
him fish and chips and now he's
laying on top of me brown bread.
He's fucking dead!

We see Malcolm's body slumped over Anif in his chair.

JOHN
Fucking hell. Have you called an
ambulance?

ANIF
So I can say what "Hi, I've
murdered someone. Can you come and
pick him up?"

JOHN
I thought you didn't murder him.

ANIF
Of course I didn't murder him. But
what are they going to think? Can
you come and help!?

John sighs, and gets up.

INT. TRAVEL AGENTS OFFICE - EVENING - LATER

John is standing in the office, looking at a terrified Anif, with Malcolm slumped over him.

JOHN
Shiiit.

ANIF
What are we going to do.

JOHN
I think you're just going to have
to learn to live like that.

ANIF
Fuck off.

JOHN
Alright. Don't murder me!

ANIF
Fuck. Off.

JOHN
Did he book the holiday?

ANIF
Funnily enough. No.

JOHN
Always letting the easy one's slip
away.

ANIF
It's alright. I've called a friend.
He's going to come and take
pictures.

JOHN
Why do you want pictures? So you
can have a wank over this in a
month?

ANIF
No. Eurgh. So I've got proof of how
he actually fell. I don't trust the
police.

There's a knock at the door. It startles Anif and John.

ANIF (CONT'D)
Oh, here they are.

John turns to look at them.

JOHN
Fuck off.

Niamh and Sol are standing in the doorway.

JOHN (CONT'D)
(disbelief)
It's "Calamity Jane" and "One Hour
Photo".

He points at them as if they're good nicknames. He knows they're not.

SOL
John Doe.

JOHN
Well, half right. My name is John.

SOL
Oh, nice.

ANIF
Who am I?

NIAMH
Looks like you're fucked, mate.

INT. TRAVEL AGENTS OFFICE - NIGHT

Sol is taking pictures of the body laying on Anif. We then cut the John, Sol and Niamh levering Malcolm's body on the floor. When he hits the floor they all recoil back in horror as if he's going to explode.

They stand there staring at the body on the floor.

ANIF
Thanks, guys.

Niamh sees the invitation to her sister's wedding on the table and picks it up to look at it.

SOL
Is anyone going to actually call
the police?

ANIF
Oy, John. Dead body... open or
wrapped?

END.