

22UD9121/ PES07020025/AAA TX: RADIO 4 21/07/23 at 14:15

**SCENE 1**                      **TV TALKSHOW - COLD OPEN**

**FX: TV SHOW MUSIC**

**FX: TV STUDIO APPLAUSE**

PRESENTER: Good morning, you're here with 'Wake up Europe'! Firstly, a Belfast Pharmaceuticals company is hoping to end 2033 with a medical breakthrough! They have a new drug which they hope will cure... wait for it... Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. I'm joined by the Co-CEO of ABACUS, Dr Jacqueline Hill.

**FX: STUDIO APPLAUSE**

JACKIE: Thanks for having me on.

PRESENTER: Thanks for taking time out of your busy schedule! So - a pill to cure trauma? Is there really a quick fix to forget?

JACKIE: It's not about forgetting. It's about living with it. We're confident – give it a few years – this drug will be a force for good.

PRESENTER: And what's the drug called Jackie?

JACKIE: It's not official, but we're thinking 'RESTORE'.

**SCENE 2**                      **INT. BABY'S ROOM**

**ATMOS: TINNY TALKSHOW AUDIO**

**ON TV**

**ATMOS: BABY CRIB MOBILE**

**FX: BABY CRIES**

**FX: BABY CRIES**

MARY:                      It's okay Katie. It's okay. There now.  
Shhhhhhhh.

**FX: MARY PICKS UP BABY. CRIES**  
**SOFTEN.**

MARY:                      How about a little story? Em... Once upon a  
time there was a Princess... and a brave  
Knight. The Princess and the Knight were  
riding in a chariot when they were hit by a  
large... dragon! The Knight went into a deep  
deep sleep. A sleep he couldn't wake up from.  
So the princess took a magic potion and went  
back in time to save him.

CARL:                      (FROM THE OTHER ROOM)  
MARY! Babysitter's here!

MARY:                      But the Princess doesn't remember the last ten  
years. She doesn't even remember giving birth  
to her baby.

CARL: MARY! Let's go!

MARY: COMING! Bye Katie.

**SFX: TALKSHOW AUDIO BLEEDS BACK TO  
FULL FIDELITY**

**SFX: MUSIC BEAT KICKS IN**

ACTOR 1: BITTER PILL by Michael Patrick & Oisín  
Kearney. EPISODE 3: DISCONNECT.

**SCENE 3**                      **INT. THERAPY ROOM**

**ATMOS: TICKING CLOCK**

STUART:            Carl, you start. Why are we here today?

CARL:              Thanks Stuart. I just... Em... I love Mary. I love you. I really do but I dunno... I want us to be happy and -

MARY:              Carl, we are happy? I'm happy!

STUART:           Please Mary, let Carl speak.

CARL:              I'm worried... like this is going to sound bad, and I don't... I'm just... I'm worried about Kate. You know, she's five months old... and... it was a bit of an impulsive decision - but I obviously wouldn't change it, she's amazing - I just... I worry that we'll be able to look after her properly. Like I just want us to be solid, for her.

MARY:              Carl, I want that too.

STUART:           And what is concerning you Carl? What are the obstacles that you see for you both?

CARL:              Well... We got in an accident about ten years ago. Mary... jumped out of the car when I was driving. And afterwards... she couldn't tell me why she did it. I've always been worried about her. And I'm worried having Kate might be putting more stress on her.

STUART:        How does it make you feel to hear that Mary?

MARY:            I'm fine.

CARL:            But you said that before, and we've been going to therapy for two years now.

MARY:            I promise. Things will be better. It'll be different this time.

CARL:            How?

MARY:            Because... *I'm* different. It might not make sense, but I - something's changed in me.

CARL:            Okay...

MARY:            I'm like a new person. I promise.

CARL:            I just want you to be happy.

MARY:            I am happy. I'm just so happy to have you back.

CARL:            I never went anywhere.

MARY:            I know... but *emotionally*. I'm glad to be back with you emotionally. I feel like we haven't talked in so long.

CARL:            Me too.

STUART:        Great progress...

**SCENE 4      INT. DINNER PARTY**

**ATMOS: MUSIC PLAYING ON VINYL, PEOPLE  
CHATting AND DRINKING**

MARY:            Jackie lives here?

CARL:            She's lived here for ages.

MARY:            This is a palace!

**FX: FAST FOOTSTEPS**

JACKIE:          BESTIE! Hugs!

**FX: JACKIE PULLS MARY INTO  
HUG**

MARY:            Ooof! Bestie?

CARL:            We were just talking about how the other half  
live.

JACKIE:          Overworked and overtired! This is my first night  
off since Christmas.

MARY:            It's October...

JACKIE:          Exactly! Where's Kate?

CARL:            Babysitter. We needed a night off too.

**FX: CORK POPPING, FIZZ**

JACKIE: Sparkling wine? Sweden's finest!

**FX: FIZZY WINE POURED.**

CARL: Thank you.

JACKIE: Don't worry, I have a lovely elderflower concoction for yourself Mary. Honestly, I love that you're not drinking - putting us all to shame.

MARY: Not drinking? No no. I'll have a wine.

CARL: What's going on with you?

MARY: What?

CARL: You're prepping for a marathon...

MARY: Yeah... no obviously. Can't be drinking if I'm prepping for a... *a marathon!* ... Sorry, excuse me, I need some air.

**FX: MARY WALKS OFF**

**SCENE 5**                      **EXT. DINNER PARTY**

**ATMOS: MUSIC FROM INSIDE - A DIFFERENT  
TRACK LOW VOLUME**

**FX: NIGHT AIR, CARS DRIVING IN THE DISTANCE**

**FX: MARY BREATHES DEEP**

**FX: PATIO DOOR SLIDES OPEN**

JACKIE:                      You alright, lovie?

MARY:                      Jackie, is this real? Am I going to wake up from  
this?

JACKIE:                      What?

MARY:                      The pill... you gave it to me. It feels like a  
dream.

JACKIE:                      What? Are you okay? Carl had mentioned  
therapy... are you on pills now?

MARY:                      Uh... I just meant I can't believe you're CEO of  
ABACUS now - it's like a dream!

JACKIE:                      Co-CEO. Warren isn't giving up the reins that  
easily. But you're right, it is like a dream. A very  
busy and very stressful dream - steering the  
company, getting rid of the dead weight - Eoin  
Kinney, cough, cough.



MARY:           You fired Eoin?

JACKIE:         First thing I did! Do you know him?

MARY:           I think you mentioned him before.

JACKIE:         Have I?

MARY:           Maybe on the TV? I saw you on, talking about  
some new drug?

JACKIE:         Urgh, I have to do those appearances.

MARY:           A drug for trauma wasn't it?

JACKIE:         PTSD. I was working on it myself before I  
started climbing the corporate ladder! It's  
actually fascinating... So we take rats right, and  
we uhhh, get them to do a maze - and then we  
we have this wee machine -

MARY:           To wipe their memories.

JACKIE:         How did you know that?

MARY:           You told me. They would remember the maze  
perfectly.

JACKIE:         I didn't tell you that.

MARY:           Oh.... it was... did you not say that? On TV?

JACKIE: I wouldn't mention that! I'd have PETA after me  
before you could say 'red paint'.

**FX: PHONE RINGS**

JACKIE: How did you know about that Mary?

MARY: You musta said before...

**FX: JACKIE ANSWERS THE PHONE**

JACKIE: Urghh.. It's work. Hello? ... What? No - that's  
not what we agreed...

MARY: (TO JACKIE) I'll just go back inside...

**SCENE 6**                      **EXT. PARK - DAY**

**ATMOS: PARK, CHILDREN PLAY,**  
**DOGS, BIRDS, ICE-CREAM VAN MUSIC**  
**FX: CARL PUSHES PRAM**  
**FX: THEY SIP COFFEE**

MARY:                      This is nice.

CARL:                      The Hill family, out for a wee stroll in the park.

**FX: THEY WALK IN SILENCE. PRAM**  
**STOPS.**

CARL:                      I'll bin these coffee cups.

MARY:                      I'll mind Katie.

CARL:                      Kate. Since when is she called Katie?

MARY:                      Sorry. Kate. That's right.

**FX: CARL WALKS OFF.**  
**FX: KATE STARTS TO CRY**

MARY:                      Aw! Aw! Don't cry... why are you crying? Are  
you hungry.. hungry? Are you sad...?

**FX: KATE CRIES HARDER**

MARY: Your Daddy will be back soon. Oh! I don't know what you want.

**FX: CARL RUNS BACK**

CARL: woah!

MARY: She's crying. What should I do?

CARL: She dropped her blankie.

MARY: Ah right. I see.

CARL: Here you go Kate, it's okay. Here's your blankie.

**FX: KATE STOPS CRYING**

MARY: I panicked. I didn't know what was wrong.

CARL: It's alright, no need to panic.

MARY: Sorry, brain fog. Let's just go home.

**FX: THEY WALK AND PUSH THE PRAM IN SILENCE.**

**SCENE 7**                      **INT. ABACUS LAB - DAY****ATMOS: RATS SCURRYING ABOUT, SQUEAKING.**

JACKIE:                      Research note 10:15, 11th October 2033. Rats trained on the maze, and memory wiped. Now testing the first rat -SocRATes - to see if they remember the maze. There is a bell at the end they must ring to obtain food.

**FX: RAT SCURRIES THROUGH  
MAZE, BUMPING INTO WALLS, GETTING  
DISTRESSED.**

JACKIE:                      SocRATes, very distressed, does not remember the maze. Rat Number Two - Noam CHOMPski, has been treated with a micro-dose of RESTORE and -

**FX: KNOCK ON THE DOOR, DOOR  
OPENS**

WARREN:                      Hello.

JACKIE:                      Warren!

WARREN:                      Cracking out the old lab coat again?!

JACKIE:                      I just - I was reviewing some of the new data on this new drug and... I thought I'd have a look.

WARREN:                      You never forget your roots!

JACKIE:       Yup.

WARREN:       Will I see you at the quarterly earnings report?

**FX: BELL RINGS**

JACKIE:       (UNDER HER BREATH) What? No that's not...

WARREN:       Jackie?

JACKIE:       Hm? (DISTRACTED) Yeah yeah, see you  
there...

WARREN:       Alright...

**FX: DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES**

**FX: RAT SQUEAKS**

JACKIE:       That's impossible...

**SCENE 8**                      **INT. CARL & MARY'S HOUSE**

**FX: BABY WHIMPERS**

**FX: NAPPY BEING TAKEN OFF**

MARY:                      Woo, that is a big poo, isn't it? That's a big pool!  
(HALF SINGING) Hush little baby don't you cry,  
mamas gonna get you nice and dry.

**FX: BABY GURGLES HAPPILY**

MARY:                      You've got Carl's eyes don't you.

**FX: BABY GURGLES HAPPILY**

MARY:                      But you've got my laugh. (BABY TALK VOICE)  
Don't you, don't you. Yes you do! Yes you do!  
Let's get you some toys...

**FX: MARY SQUATS DOWN,  
PUTTING BABY ON THE FLOOR.**

MARY:                      What have we got?

**FX: MARY RUMMAGES IN TOY  
BOX**  
**FX: MARY SQUEEZES A BALL - SQUEAK.**

MARY:                      No, that's more like a dog toy... What's this?

**FX: BABY LAUGHS**

MARY: Oh you like this one? What about this? A book...

**FX: BICYCLE HORN BEEPS.**

MARY: "100 Things that Go". And look Lots of buttons!

**FX: SOUND OF A CAR**

MARY: Wow! You try. What about that one?

**FX: BABY STARTS MASHING BUTTONS**

**FX: SOUND OF A HELICOPTER**

MARY: Oooh and that one?

**FX: SOUND OF A TRAIN**

**FX: SOUND OF A TRAIN**

**FX: SOUND OF A TRAIN**

MARY: Woah, you're really... bashing that.

**FX: BABY LAUGHS**

**FX: SOUND OF A TRAIN**

**FX: SOUND OF A TRAIN**

**FX: SOUND OF A TRAIN**

MARY: (PANIC RISES) Alright, maybe emmm, maybe let's stop pressing that one.

**FX: SOUND OF A TRAIN**

MARY: Kate?



**FX: SOUND OF A TRAIN**

**FX: SOUND OF A TRAIN**

MARY: Kate, please! Och Kate please, you're making  
the train come...

**FX: SOUND OF A TRAIN**

**FX: SOUND OF A TRAIN**

**FX: SOUND OF A TRAIN IN TOY**

**BOX ENLARGES TO BECOME SOUND OF**

**REAL TRAIN IN MARY'S FLASHBACK.**

**FX: WHOOSH**

**SCENE 9**                      **INT. CAR - EVENING (FLASHBACK)**

**FX: MUFFLED/UNDERWATER SOUND OF  
HEAVY RAIN, SONG ON RADIO, A TRAIN. VOICES  
NOT CLEAR.**

CARL:                      (MUFFLED)  
You always do this Mary, you can't just -

**FX: A LORRY HORN BLARES**

MARY:                      (MUFFLED)  
Carl. Watch out!

**FX: TYRE SQUEAL. TRAIN HORN.**

MARY:                      (CLEAR)  
CARL!

**FX: A LOUD CRASH!**

**FX: WHOOSH AS MUSIC CUTS OUT.**

**SCENE 10**                      **INT. CARL & MARY'S HOUSE**

**FX: BABY CRIES**

CARL:                      Mary? What's going on?!

MARY:                      (WAKING UP) Huh?

**FX: CARL PICKS UP BABY**

CARL:                      Shhhh, shhhh it's okay Kate. Shhh.

**FX: BABY STOPS CRYING.**

CARL:                      Mary?! Why are you on the ground? Are you alright?

MARY:                      I'm fine.

CARL:                      I leave for two hours and come back to Kate crying her eyes out and you... collapsed. What happened?

MARY:                      I... I don't remember.

CARL:                      Mary - tell me what's going on with you.

MARY:                      Nothing. I just... I just fell asleep alright?

CARL:               Why are you being like this? Why aren't you talking to me?

MARY:             I want to...

CARL:             Then do. I'm here. I'm here for you.

MARY:             No. I can't.

**FX: BABY STARTS CRYING AGAIN**

CARL:             Shhhh Kate... come with me love.

MARY:             Where are you going?

CARL:             I'm going to put her down.

MARY:             I can do it. Let me help.

CARL:             No... you rest, or go for a walk or... just get your head showered.

MARY:             I'm sorry, Carl.

CARL:             You don't need to be sorry. You just need to tell me what's going on in your head. I'm worried.

**SCENE 11**                      **EXT. ROAD - TRAIN TRACKS - DAY**

**ATMOS: QUIET OUTDOOR SOUND**  
**FX: A CAR PASSES AND SLOWS IN THE**  
**DISTANCE. THE DOOR OPENS.**

JACKIE:                      (DISTANT) Mary! Hey...

MARY:                      Jackie...?

JACKIE:                      (APPROACHING) I've been looking all over for  
you! Why are you out by the train tracks?

MARY:                      Leave me alone.

JACKIE:                      (APPROACHING) Hold on a second.

MARY:                      What do you want?

JACKIE:                      You knew about the rats.

MARY:                      And...

JACKIE:                      I went back to the lab and it's exactly as you  
described. It's as if the rats don't just remember  
the maze... they're *reliving* it.

MARY:                      Okay.

JACKIE:                      (EXCITED) Ah come on Mary. I know! You've  
taken RESTORE.

MARY:                      You know?

JACKIE: Carl said you've been acting strange. You're suddenly forgetting other things... as if you just woke up in this life yesterday... as if you're...

MARY: What?

JACKIE: You're not the Mary I know.

MARY: (BEAT) I'm not.

JACKIE: I knew it! RESTORE is mental time travel, and you've taken it, right?

MARY: Well in my timeline we call it RESET, but yeah.

JACKIE: Tell me everything.

MARY: Ten years ago. When I jumped out of the car.

JACKIE: Yeah?

MARY: That was here. I was trying to stop the car. To stop the accident and stop Carl going into a coma.

JACKIE: Carl was in a coma?

MARY: Yeah. But I changed it.

JACKIE: So this reality is a consequence of what you did? This is incredible.

MARY: It doesn't feel incredible!

JACKIE: Sorry. What's it like where you... when you came from? Carl's in a coma...? What am I like? Am I different?

MARY: Everything's different! But right now... me and Carl.. he's so worried about me. I've done everything I can... but I dunno what to do.

JACKIE: Tell him the truth.

MARY: (SCOFFS) Aye right.

JACKIE: I'm serious. Tell him. This is... unbelievable.

MARY: Exactly! He'll not believe me!

JACKIE: You need to tell him.

MARY: (LEAVING) I can't.

JACKIE: He needs to know why you're like this.

**FX: MUSIC**

**SCENE 12**                      **INT. CARL & MARY'S HOUSE**

**FX: TV SOUNDS**

ANNOUNCER: Wrexham FC drop to fifth in the Premier League today, with Thiago Messi failing to perform. Manager Ryan Reynolds speaking after the match said there could have -

**FX: DOOR OPENS AND CLOSSES -  
FOOTSTEPS.**

**FX: TV IS MUTED**

CARL:                      Where were you?

MARY:                    I went for a walk, like you said.

CARL:                    I'm sorry about earlier. I was annoyed and I -  
are you okay?

MARY:                    Yeah. Where's Kate?

CARL:                    I managed to get her down... Can we talk  
about something?

MARY:                    Okay...

CARL:                    I think I know what's going on.

MARY:                    Were you speaking to Jackie?

CARL:                    No, why?



MARY: Nothing, what were you saying?

CARL: I think... maybe you have... postnatal depression

MARY: I don't -

CARL: I know it's hard to hear, but it might explain why you're confused -

MARY: I don't have that.

CARL: Kate could have gotten hurt. It's not just us anymore. I don't want her growing up with a mother who... doesn't protect her -

MARY: I will protect -

CARL: Or can't protect her. I am not doing that to Kate.

MARY: You don't know what I've done to try to fix everything. Do you not trust me with her?

CARL: (SIGHS)

MARY: Oh my God, you don't trust me.

CARL: I just think, maybe, we need to get you some help.

MARY: I'm sorry, OK?! It won't happen again.

CARL: It can't. It can't happen again. I don't know...  
It's like you don't even know our child.

MARY: I don't know her! But I want to. I want to get to know her, I just need time.

CARL: We can't go on like this.

MARY: You want me to talk? Let's talk.

CARL: Right.

MARY: Okay. Ten years ago - the day I threw myself out of the car... That day, we were supposed to - We *did* have an accident.

CARL: What?

MARY: And so... Jackie made this pill and I took it. I went back in time -

CARL: - you went?

MARY: I stopped the accident. And now I'm here. Ask Jackie! She believes me. She said it's 'mental time travel'.

CARL: What are you - ?

MARY: Carl I know it's mad... but I have to tell you... It's why I don't remember things.

CARL: Sorry... What's going on?

MARY: I remember a different time - where you've been in a coma and we never had Katie.

CARL: Her name's Kate.

MARY: Please believe me.

CARL: Believe what?

MARY: You said it yourself, I've been acting weird this week. This is why. Because I come from a different time.

CARL: So you calling Kate... 'Katie'? You not remembering where Jackie lives. You not knowing where anything is in your own house. That's all because you're... what? A time traveller?

MARY: Yeah.

CARL: You think... you're a time traveller?

MARY: I know it's a lot. But yeah. And Jackie knows too.

CARL: Right. This is a lot, umm, why don't we talk about this in the morning?

MARY: Do you believe me?

CARL: ... I believe you believe it.

MARY:           Ok. Fair.

CARL:           We'll deal with this tomorrow, okay?

MARY:           Yes.

CARL:           We'll... we'll sort this out.

MARY:           I love you.

CARL:           I love you too.

**SFX: MUSIC UNDERSCORE CARRIES US**  
**TO NEXT SCENE**

**SCENE 13**                      **INT. MARY AND CARL'S HOUSE -**  
**BEDROOM**

**ATMOS: THE NEXT DAY. MORNING**  
**BIRDSONG**

**FX: MARY ROLLS OVER IN BED**

MARY:                      (WAKING UP) Mornin'.

CARL:                      How'd you sleep?

MARY:                      Well... for once.

CARL:                      You've been so stressed haven't you?

MARY:                      I don't like hiding things from you.

CARL:                      We have to look after each other.

**FX: DOORBELL. CARL JUMPS UP.**

MARY:                      Who's that?

CARL:                      I'll get it. Just stay in bed.

**FX: CARL WALKS DOWNSTAIRS. DOOR**  
**OPENS. MUMBLED VOICES.**

**SCENE 14**                      **INT. MARY AND CARL'S HOUSE -**  
**HALLWAY**

**FX: MARY WALKS DOWN STAIRS**

CARL:                      She's upstairs. I haven't told her yet, but I've packed her things.

STUART:                OK. We'll be as gentle as possible.

MARY:                    Stuart?

STUART:                Morning Mary.

MARY:                    Carl, what's going on?

CARL:                    I called Stuart... He just wants to do an assessment.

MARY:                    You called our counsellor to assess me?

STUART:                I'm a practising psychiatrist Mary -

MARY:                    Wait, are you taking me away?

STUART:                I'm just here to help.

MARY:                    How could you do this Carl?

CARL:                    We have to make sure you're alright.

MARY: I am alright.

CARL: We have to face reality, love... You're talking about time travel.

MARY: I'm not going with him.

STUART: We don't have to go anywhere for now.

MARY: Please leave.

CARL: You're not well.

MARY: I thought you believed me.

CARL: I love you and I just want to help you. You can't look after Kate like this. You can't look after yourself. I don't want you ending up like my mum -

MARY: (RUNNING AWAY) No. No.

CARL: Mary! Don't!

**FX: BACK DOOR OPENS**

**FX: MARY RUNS**

STUART: Mary?! Please, stop!

CARL: Help her, please!

**FX: FOOTSTEPS RUNNING**

**SFX: MUSIC BEAT KICKS IN**

**SCENE 15**                      **EXT. JACKIE'S HOUSE**

**FX: PHONE RINGS**

**FX: FOOTSTEPS ON GRAVEL**

JACKIE:                      Yes I know. I'll see you in the office. I'm just getting into the car now.

**FX: CAR DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES**

**FX: ELECTRIC CAR ENGINE STARTS AND  
MOVES OFF SLOWLY, TYRES ON GRAVEL**

**FX: RUNNING ON GRAVEL**

MARY:                      (OUTSIDE CAR) Jackie! Jackie!

**FX: CAR STOPS SUDDENLY. WINDOW  
WOUND DOWN**

JACKIE:                      Mary, what's wrong?

MARY:                      Jackie, it's all - I didn't know what to do, so I just told Carl the truth -

JACKIE:                      Woah, woah, just slow down.

MARY:                      I thought he believed me, but he wants me sectioned!

JACKIE:                      Oh my God.

MARY:                      They're gonna strap me to a chair -

JACKIE                      No-one's going to strap you to a chair.



MARY: What am I gonna do Jackie - start a new life, like in Belgium or somewhere?

JACKIE: You're not starting a new life in Belgium! I'll go to Carl and explain -

MARY: He won't listen.

JACKIE: I'll sit him down and I'll say to -

MARY: No. I need to fix all of this. Jackie give me RESET...

JACKIE: RESTORE?

MARY: Whatever you're calling it! We'll go to your lab and I'll take the pill and and and I'll do it all again and fix it!

JACKIE: You want to take the drug?

MARY: Please Jackie.

JACKIE: It hasn't even been tested on humans!

MARY: I don't care. It works. I know it works! Give it to me and I'll show you.

JACKIE: I can't just give it to you!

MARY: Jackie, me and you are the only two people that know what it does. There is no way Carl will listen. He'll think we're both nuts. And Kate will grow up without a mother!

JACKIE: What do you mean?

MARY: He doesn't think I'm fit to look after her. They'll put me away and Kate will grow up with her mother in an institution. I can't do that Jackie!

JACKIE: So, hang on, what are you suggesting?

MARY: You give me the drug. I'll do it better this time. I'll fit in better. I'll fix everything with Carl. And I'll be there for Kate.

JACKIE: I'm not sure.

MARY: I've just found her, Jackie. I need to fix things for Kate.

JACKIE: ...Alright.

MARY: Really?!

JACKIE: Get in the car.

MARY: Umm...

JACKIE: What are you waiting for? Get in!

MARY: (STRESSED SIGH)

**FX: CAR DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES.**

**SCENE 16**      **INT. ABACUS PHARMA TREATMENT ROOM**

**ATMOS: SPA MUSIC**

**ATMOS: RATS SQUEAK.**

**FX: POSITIVE BLEEP AND DOOR OPENS**

JACKIE:      In here.

**FX: KEYPAD BUTTONS PRESSED, A KEY  
OPENS A REFRIGERATED SAFE.**

JACKIE:      Here we go...

MARY:      What's this pill yellow and red? The others  
looked like a Rennie. Where's the sedative  
coating?

JACKIE:      What coating?

MARY:      So that's pure RESET?

JACKIE:      Pure RESTORE yes.

MARY:      Ok... just give it to me.

**FX: WATER BEING POURED FROM A TAP  
INTO A GLASS**

JACKIE:      Here.

MARY:      (DEEP BREATHS)

JACKIE: What are you waiting for?

MARY: I - I don't know -

JACKIE: This was your plan!

MARY: I know. I'm sorry, I'm just -

JACKIE: Take it!

MARY: If I take this... what happens to *you*?

JACKIE: I'll be fine.

MARY: But what if... what if you vanish?

JACKIE: Why would that happen?

MARY: You said it would. When I take the pill, I reset everything... you'll cease to exist.

JACKIE: I said that?

MARY: Yeah, you did. Well, the other you did.

JACKIE: How in God's name would I know that?

MARY: You're a scientist!

JACKIE: I'm a chemist, not a theoretical physicist. I don't know how... 'time travel' works!

MARY: But you invented this drug.

JACKIE: There could be branching timelines, or maybe our consciousness gets folded into the other reality. I don't know. And if I don't know, the other me definitely didn't know either.

MARY: What if I mess up again?

JACKIE: You won't. Just come straight to me this time. I'll coach you in this reality, catch you up.

MARY: Jackie... am I doing the right thing?

JACKIE: What do you know about our mum?

MARY: You and Carl's? Carl didn't really talk about her. I know she wasn't the best.

JACKIE: Understatement. She was a bully. The night you threw yourself out of the car... I was also... That night she came over... she called me... 'a cancer'.

MARY: A cancer?

JACKIE: Yeah.

MARY: Oh my God, Jackie, I'm so sorry.

JACKIE: It's fine. Well I mean, it's not fine, but... the point is... I've never told anyone that my mum said that. Not even Carl. If you tell that to... 'the other me', she'll listen to you. If she knows you're there for Kate, she'll help.

MARY: Okay.

JACKIE: Kate deserves to have a mother who's there for her. You need to do this.

MARY: Okay.

JACKIE: For Kate. You ready?

MARY: Yeah let's go. Right, let's do this.

**FX: MARY DRINKS WATER + SWALLOWS  
PILL**

JACKIE: What now?

MARY: Well, usually, you tell me to focus, feel my bum in the chair.

JACKIE: Your bum? Not very scientific.

MARY: That's what I said! You know Jacke, in my timeline... we don't even like each other.

JACKIE: Maybe when you wake up, we'll still be friends?

**FX: RAIN STARTS TO FALL**

MARY: I hope so.

JACKIE: I hope so too.

**FX: WHOOSH.**



**SCENE 17**                      **INT. CAR - EVENING (FLASHBACK)**

**FX: RAIN, THUNDER, WIPERS, SONG X,**

CARL:                      Ah, I love this one. Turn it up.

MARY:                      (TO HERSELF) It worked! Well done Jackie.

CARL:                      You alright love?

MARY:                      Thunder clap.

**FX: THUNDER CLAP.**

CARL:                      Wow... How did you know that was gonna happen?

MARY:                      I just did.

CARL:                      It's really coming down. I hope Jackie's okay.

MARY:                      Yeah, me too.

CARL:                      I'm sorry we're going to be late for dinner -

MARY:                      Please, mind the truck. It's going to brake suddenly, and you're going to run the car off the road, up that bank in front of the train.

CARL:                      Train? What train?

**FX: A TRAIN APPROACHING**

MARY: That train!

CARL: That's weird. How did you know -

MARY: Carl. Just keep your eyes on the road, alright?!

CARL: What did I do? Why are you snapping at me?

MARY: I'm not snapping at you.

CARL: You are! (UNDER HIS BREATH)  
You sound like my mum.

MARY: Look, I'm sorry about your mum - I know she's  
been horrible to you and Jackie -

CARL: (SNAPS) Who told you about our mum?!

**FX: A LORRY HORN BLARES**

MARY: Carl. Watch out!

CARL: Oh God!

**FX: DRIVING WHEEL JERKED.**  
**TYRE SQUEAL. CAR SLIDES. TRAIN HORN.**

MARY: CARL!

**FX: A LOUD CRASH!**

**FX: WHOOSH!**

**SCENE 18**                      **INT. PUB BATHROOM - DAY**

**ATMOS: GENERAL PUB TOILET SOUNDS - HAND-  
DRYERS, DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES.**

**ATMOS: LOUD MUFFLED MUSIC PLAYING ON  
JUKEBOX IN BAR**

**FX: VOMITING INTO TOILET.**

MARY:                      (TIRED AND SICK) Urgghh.

**FX: VOMITING**

MARY:                      Where am I now?

ARLO CARL:              The Topsy Squirrel - your favourite pub.

MARY:                      ARLO? You're back!

ARLO CARL:              I am across multiple devices. I am always here.

**FX: TOILET FLUSHES,  
FOOTSTEPS, MARY ACCIDENTALLY KICKS  
A GLASS BOTTLE.**

MARY:                      What was I doing?

ARLO CARL:              Imbibing lots of gin.

MARY:                      Oh I feel terrible. Wait... if you're here...  
where's Carl?

ARLO CARL:              Carl Hill?

MARY: Yes ARLO, where is he?

ARLO CARL: Carl is, sadly, deceased.

MARY: What?

ARLO CARL: He died ten years ago. In a car accident. You purchased me, an Artificially Revitalised Loved One and uploaded his voice, so that I may comfort you.

MARY: No. No, you're broken. I need to find Jackie. Call Jackie.

ARLO CARL: Jackie Hill?

MARY: Did I install the parrot package?! Yes, call Jackie!

ARLO CARL: Jackie is currently in Lone Pine Psychiatric Hospital. Shall I leave a message?

MARY: A Psychiatric hospital?

**FX: MUSIC OUTRO.**

**END.**

In EPISODE 3 of BITTER PILL by Michael Patrick & Oisín Kearney, Mary was played by Séainín Brennan, Jackie by Charlotte McCurry, Carl – Shaun Blaney, Stuart – Tony Flynn and Warren was Martin McCann. All other roles were performed by members of the cast and crew.

BITTER PILL was produced in Belfast by Michael Shannon.

The Executive Editor was Andy Martin.

BITTER PILL is a BBC Northern Ireland production for Radio 4.