

BROKEN

Episode 2

Father Michael's Story

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GREEN SCRIPT

September 26th 2016

1 INT SACRISTY OF SAINT NICK'S DAY 6 09.15 1

Father Michael Kerrigan and Father Peter Flaherty face three eager seminarians (trainee priests).

SEMINARIAN

When did you first know you were called to be a priest?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(laughing)

Did he

(meaning Father Flaherty)

Tell you to ask that?

SEMINARIAN

No.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

It was one weekend, thirty nine years ago. I was eighteen. I'd turned my back on school and church and faith - "with good reason" I'd have said back then. But I watched a falconer at work.

2 FLASHBACK EXT PARK/WOODLAND DAY 2

*A hawk takes off from a falconer's glove.*

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (V.O.)

His hawk disappeared, didn't return.

3 INT SACRISTY OF SAINT NICK'S DAY 6 CONT. 3

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The crowd drifted away till there was just me and him. Every half hour or so he'd call out, "Come on, boy" and then say to me, "He'll come." Total faith. And then after, I don't know, four maybe five hours, he came.

4 FLASHBACK EXT PARK/WOODLAND DAY 4

*A hawk swoops from the sky and lands on the falconer's glove.*

5 INT SACRISTY OF SAINT NICK'S DAY 6 CONT. 5

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

God doesn't always come when you call him.

(MORE)



8            INT    CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S HOUSE    DAY 6 10.00            8

She has thrown the money onto the table.

She gets her Mum's bag, takes out the purse, opens it, puts the pension card away, puts the purse back in the bag.

She picks up the phone and punches in a number. It rings at the other end.

                         CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
                         It's Christina Fitzsimmons, Father.  
                         Rosie's daughter. She's died  
                         suddenly, Father.

                         FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (V.O.)  
                         I'm really sorry to hear that...

And we fade out...

9            EXT    CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S STREET    DAY 6 10.20            9

Father Michael walking.

10           EXT    CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S STREET    DAY 6 10.30           10

Father Michael rings Christina's doorbell. She opens the door.

                         FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
                         I'm really sorry, Christina.

                         CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
                         Thanks, Father.

He embraces her and it really affects her. It's the first time in ages she has had a man's arms around her.

They go in.

11           INT    CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S HOUSE    DAY 6 10.31           11

Bedroom. They enter.

                         CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
                         Do you need anything, Father?

                         FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
                         No.

Father Michael puts his little bag/box of tricks onto a white cloth with which Christina has covered the bedside table.

                         CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
                         Tea or..?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I'm fine.

He takes Nan's hand in his.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

I'll miss you, Rosie.

He realises something. He studies Nan's face, Nan's skin.

He looks at Christina. It unnerves her.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

What?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

When did she die?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

(practised)

Some time between ten o'clock last night and ten o'clock this morning when I found her. Father.

(pause)

What is it?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Would you mind if I lit a candle?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

No.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

It's easy to forget that Christ is here, giving us strength, easing our pain. The candle reminds us of that fact.

He lights it.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

She's been dead a few days, Christina.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

That's impossible, Father.

He studies her, knows she's lying.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I need to ask this, Christina, I'm sorry. Was it her pension?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

I don't know what you're talking about, Father.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Christina, we'll need a doctor to  
certify death. He'll know she's  
been dead for days. He'll phone the  
police. The first thing they'll do  
is check when her pension was last  
drawn. When was that?

A pause. She has never felt so trapped.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
(suddenly)  
Did you know she was getting pains  
in her chest?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Yes.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
I didn't. Everybody else did but I  
didn't!

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
When was her pension last drawn,  
Christina?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
(eventually)  
An hour ago.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Oh, Christina.

He looks at the flickering candle, seeking an answer there.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
Will I go to prison?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
I don't know.  
(pause)  
Will you join me in a prayer?

It's so desperate she finds herself nodding: yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)  
Our Father, who art in Heaven,  
hallowed be thy name...

BOTH  
Thy kingdom come; thy will be done  
on earth as it is in Heaven. Give  
us this day our daily bread and  
forgive us our trespasses as we  
forgive those who trespass against  
us. And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Now, at a loss, he looks at the crucified Christ on the wall.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
(to Christ)  
What now?

12            EXT    CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S STREET    DAY 6 12.30            12

A police car drives down the street, pulls up outside  
Christina's house. P.C. Andrew Powell gets out and knocks.

Father Michael opens the door. This surprises the policeman.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
Hello, Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Hi, Andrew.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
She's dead?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Yes.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
Natural causes?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Yes.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
Then why call me?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
The doctor told us to. He's with  
her now. Upstairs, on the right.

Intrigued, P.C. Andrew Powell passes Father Michael...

13            INT    CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S HOUSE    DAY 6 CONT.            13

P.C. Andrew Powell goes along the hall and starts climbing  
the stairs.

We go with Father Michael into the living room.

Living Room. Christina is here. She's frightened.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
Police?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Yes.

Christina picks up the phone, dials.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
(explaining)  
My sister.  
(pause: an answer machine)  
I'm being arrested. I need you to  
look after the kids.

She finishes the call. PC Andrew Powell enters.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
The doctor thinks she's been dead  
for three or four days.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
Four.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Christina couldn't bring herself to  
report it until now.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
(to Christina)  
Even though you've got kids running  
round?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
She wasn't thinking straight,  
I'm...

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
I'm sorry, Michael, please.  
(i.e. shut up. And now, to  
Christina)  
When was her pension last drawn?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
This morning.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
By you?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
Yes.

14        EXT    CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S STREET    DAY 6 14.00

14

Nan's body is slid into a van.

Behind the van is a police car. Christina is put into it. She  
looks towards her front step.

Her three kids are here with Mariella, her sister. Christina  
bravely smiles and nods to the kids but the kids are too  
upset to respond.

Now Christina looks at her sister, Mariella.



But Mariella cannot bring herself to look back at her.

Father Michael Kerrigan is nearby, watching this.

Christina is driven away.

15            INT    FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN'S HOUSE    NIGHT 6 23.30            15

Father Michael Kerrigan lies in bed, listening to the shipping forecast. Sleep will not come.

16            FLASHBACK    INT    CORRIDOR/SHOWERS    DAY            16

*Steam billows out of a shower room at the end of a corridor.*

*FATHER MATTHEW*

*It is absolutely essential that you  
dry in between your toes. Any  
moisture left there causes  
infection...*

*Father Matthew's eyes focus off camera as he speaks.*

*FATHER MATTHEW (CONT'D)*

*Athlete's Foot especially. If  
you've ever had...*

*A young unidentified boy fastens the last buttons of his  
shirt...*

*FATHER MATTHEW (CONT'D)*

*Athlete's Foot you'll know it's a  
lot easier to catch it than it is  
to get rid of it.*

*Young Michael Kerrigan walks down the corridor away from  
shower room with his kit bag under his arm.*

17            INT    FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN'S HOUSE    NIGHT 6 CONT.            17

Back to Father Michael. Sleep still won't come.

18            INT    MAGISTRATE'S COURT    DAY 7 11.15            18

*MAGISTRATE*

*Is there anything you'd like to  
say, Mrs Fitzsimmons, before we get  
to sentence?*

*FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN*

*Christina's asked me to say a few  
words, Ma'am, if that's okay with  
you.*

MAGISTRATE

Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I'm Father Michael Kerrigan and I'm Christina's parish priest. You may not know this, Ma'am; you may not BELIEVE this, Ma'am, but social services are talking about taking Christina's kids away from her. Apparently they had this mental image of kids running round a dead body for days on end and nothing could be further from the truth. It's a cruel irony, Ma'am, because Christina did what she did on account of those kids. Every penny she has ever earned she has spent on those kids. Everything she has ever done she has done because she loves those kids. Ma'am, I ask you to treat this wonderful woman with as much leniency as possible and to do all in your power to ensure that those children stay with the mother who loves them.

That almost reduces Christina to tears - but she fights it.

MAGISTRATE

Thank you.

The magistrate confers briefly with the clerk. Meanwhile Christina nods to Father Michael: thank you.

MAGISTRATE (CONT'D)

I'll do all I can to help with the children, Mrs Fitzsimmons. As regards this case, I'm going to grant you an absolute discharge on the count of preventing a lawful burial but I cannot ignore the benefit fraud. On that count I sentence you to six months in prison but I will suspend it for a year. On both counts there are charges to pay and there's nothing I can do about them, I'm afraid. They amount to fifty five pounds. How will you pay it?

She manages a little joke.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

Good question.

18A            EXT    CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S STREET    DAY 8 08.15            18A

Christina and Father Michael walking down the street. They're carrying bags; they've been to the food bank.

At the other end of the street, Christina's children appear. They see their mother and start running to her.

Christina dumps the bags and heads towards her kids.

They all hug each other.

Christina looks up and sees her sister following. They look at each other...

19            INT    CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S HOUSE    DAY 8 10.10            19

Mariella, Christina and Father Michael. A candle flickering...

MARIELLA, CHRISTINA'S SISTER

I just don't know how she could do it: leave my mother lying dead like that. Oh I know what you'll say, Father: "She did it for her kids. Doing such an awful thing just proves how much she loves her kids. The more awful the thing, the more she loves them." Well, that's bollocks 'cause I've got kids and I love mine just as much as she loves hers and there's no way I would do that to my mother. And no shite please, no it's-what-she-would've-wanted shite 'cause she wouldn't have wanted to be left like that. Yes, of course she'd want her to get her pension, she'd give those kids anything, she'd give them her LIFE but, for God's sake, she'd want a bit of respect after giving it!

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Christina?

But Christina, incapable of answering, just shakes her head.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

There's no way you'd do that to your mother?

MARIELLA, CHRISTINA'S SISTER

No way.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
If you had no money? Hungry mouths  
to feed?

MARIELLA, CHRISTINA'S SISTER  
No way.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
You think she loved her less than  
you did?

That throws Mariella. She doesn't want to answer it.  
Christina answers it for her.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
Yes.

So Mariella goes for it.

MARIELLA, CHRISTINA'S SISTER  
Yes! I couldn't do what she did so,  
yes: I think she loved her less  
than I did.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Even though she lived with her?

MARIELLA, CHRISTINA'S SISTER  
("laughs")  
I wondered when that would come up.  
She let our Mam move in because it  
suited her. Free child care and a  
few bob towards the rent. Yes, Mam  
got something out of it and the  
kids kept her young but she (*i.e.*  
*Christina*) got plenty out of it  
too.  
(beat)  
I'm going.  
(stopping at the door)  
I paid Jimmy's dinner money upto  
the end of the week. Lisa's got  
athletics tomorrow and she's lost  
her kit.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
Right.

MARIELLA, CHRISTINA'S SISTER  
Bye.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS  
Bye.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Bye.

Mariella leaves.

Michael and Christina look at each other. Michael picks up the candle and blows it out.

20            INT    CHRIST OUR LORD PRIMARY SCHOOL    DAY 8 12.40            20

Michael hurrying along a corridor. It's lunchtime. The noise of kids playing in the schoolyard.

He gets to the headmistress's door. He knocks, hears "come in", pops his head in.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
I'm sorry!

For being late again he means. She's picking files up.

HEADMISTRESS  
It's okay.

They leave, start walking along the corridor.

21            INT    CHRIST OUR LORD PRIMARY SCHOOL    DAY 8 12.55            21

A classroom. Six or seven people around a table. A lunchtime meeting. People eating sandwiches and whatnot...

HEADMISTRESS  
Next is First Holy Communion.  
Nothing but praise for last year's,  
Pauline, thanks very much, so if  
you're prepared to take it on  
again?

PAULINE PICKERING  
Yes, yes.

HEADMISTRESS  
In that case, same again this time.  
Yes?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
There's just one thing.

Miss Pickering's reaction.

HEADMISTRESS  
Yes, Father.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
It's the cost.

PAULINE PICKERING  
The cost?

Pauline Pickering, single, highly strung, has organised the school's First Holy Communion Ceremony for the last twenty years and this is the first complaint she has ever had.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes. I know last year a few families got into debt for everything: the dress, the party, other bits and pieces. And I think this year there'll be more doing it.

PAULINE PICKERING

The ceremony itself costs nothing, Father.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I know. And, like Annette says, it's wonderful. What you do is truly amazing, Miss Pickering. I'm just concerned that people spend what they can't afford and it's loan sharks who profit from it.

PAULINE PICKERING

There'll always be people who go overboard.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Well, it's not that, is it? I don't think they're trying to outdo anyone. They just want their kids to look as nice as other kids. And that's expensive.

PAULINE PICKERING

I don't think there's anything we can do about that, Father. We tell them every year to keep it simple and they just get more and more...  
(hesitating to say it)  
Well, vulgar.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

There's one thing we can do.

PAULINE PICKERING

Yes?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

We can ask them to do it in their school uniform. No suits, no fancy frocks.

Miss Pickering is stunned. Moments pass.

HEADMISTRESS

Pauline?

PAULINE PICKERING  
Would people want that?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Perhaps.

PAULINE PICKERING  
It would look like an ordinary  
mass. There is nothing you could do  
to make it any different from a...  
You say "fancy frocks", Father, but  
they're not just fancy; they are  
white. Symbols of purity.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
They're eight years old. Dress them  
in rags, they'd still be pure.

She is lost for words. He realises she is hurt.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)  
I'm not criticising you in any way  
whatsoever, Miss Pickering. I just  
don't want people to take on years  
of debt for a ceremony lasting less  
than an hour.

That hurts her even more.

PAULINE PICKERING  
I have to go, I'm afraid.  
(gathering things up)  
I thought I'd been helping people  
celebrate a blessed sacrament. It  
seems I was wrong. It seems I've  
been driving them deeper and deeper  
into poverty and despair.

HEADMISTRESS  
Pauline...

PAULINE PICKERING  
I've got to go. I've got a lot of  
marking to do.

She blunders out. A pause.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Didn't I handle that well?

Father Michael running up a flight of stairs. Late again. He  
gets to a door, knocks, enters...

23            INT    MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE    DAY 8 CONT.

23

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
(entering)  
Sorry. Really sorry.

A black woman and her teenage son (Helen and Vernon Oyenusi).  
Two female case workers are here also. Father Michael senses  
the atmosphere.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)  
You've started?

HELEN OYENUSI  
Vernon's coming home.

That surprises Father Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Is he well enough?

CASE WORKER  
We think so, yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Vernon?

Vernon shakes his head. He can't answer.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)  
Last time we met, you said how well  
he was doing.

CASE WORKER  
Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Then why send him home?

CASE WORKER  
Precisely because he's done so well  
here. He's ready for it.

HELEN OYENUSI  
Is it money?

CASE WORKER  
No...

The case worker is about to embark on an elaborate lie but  
sees how futile that would be. She simply gives up. Her  
senior steps in.

SENIOR CASE WORKER  
He's the least unwell. We have  
someone profoundly ill and no bed  
for him. So our least unwell has to  
go to free one up.



FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
"Least unwell" does not mean  
"well".

SENIOR CASE WORKER  
No.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Vernon is still ill?

SENIOR CASE WORKER  
Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Then why send him home?

SENIOR CASE WORKER  
We have to.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Helen can't cope with him.  
Physically.

SENIOR CASE WORKER  
We've taken account of that in  
drawing up the care package...  
(distributing papers)  
Shall we take a look at it?

24            EXT    APPROACH TO SAINT NICK'S CHURCH    DAY 8 15.15            24  
  
Father Michael again walking fast.

25            INT    SAINT NICK'S CHURCH    DAY 8 CONT.            25  
  
There are three or four people sitting, waiting for him.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Sorry to keep you waiting. Really  
sorry.  
  
He opens the door to the confessional.

26            INT    CONFESSIONAL    DAY 8 15.30            26  
  
The Cash Switchers Man from ep 1 is here, troubled...

CASH SWITCHERS MAN

My grandad's in his seventies, used to be a docker, used to talk to me about blacking ships: Chilean ships because of Allende, South African ships because of Mandela, Californian ships because they'd sacked a longshoreman, Aussie ships because they'd imprisoned a wharfie. Dad's like him, a bit of a socialist, works in Wilton-Smith, something in the union. With him it was always "branch" and "delegate" and "resolution", "amendment" - all that trade union stuff. But I work in a pawn shop now and they utterly despise me for it. No, that's wrong. They don't despise me; it would be easier if they did. They despise the job I do. So they never talk like they used to talk. They might forget, kick off on one, but then they realise I'm there and they stop and switch to the footy. I work in a pawn shop, see; I feed off other people's hunger.

Oh how this man needs help!

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Grandad comfortable?

CASH SWITCHERS MAN

Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Your Dad?

CASH SWITCHERS MAN

Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Maybe they haven't got any more integrity than you. Maybe they've just got more money.

He fades out and Pauline Pickering fades in.

27            INT    CONFSSIONAL    DAY 8 15.50

27

PAULINE PICKERING

I'm ashamed of the way I reacted, Father...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Not at all...

PAULINE PICKERING

I AM. The Head suggested school uniform fifteen years ago, the previous Head, and they still all came in their frocks - as I knew they would. They WANT to dress up, Father, and the poorer they are the more they want it: their child a princess for the day. But I'll write to them all. I'll insist this time, I'll insist they keep it simple. Plain and simple. "It's a child's First Holy Communion, not My Big Fat Gypsy Wedding."

We fade out and cut to the door opening suddenly...

29            INT   CONFSSIONAL   DAY 8 16.25

29

Roz Demichelis enters.

                 ROZ DEMICHELIS  
You still doing it?

                 FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Hearing confession?

                 ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Yes.

                 FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Yes.

She looks around.

                 ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Not what I was expecting.

                 FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
No?

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
No. Expected it dark. A little  
shaft of light. Specks of dust  
spinning in it.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
You've not been for a while then?

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
No.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Where shall I sit?

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
(pointing)  
Please.

So he sits facing her. She sits, shows her legs off a bit.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Michael.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Roz.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
How d'you do, Roz?

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
How d'you do, Michael?

A pause.

ROZ DEMICHELIS (CONT'D)  
(eventually)  
Cat got your tongue?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
No. I'd sooner listen for a while.

That gets to her, unnerves her a bit. He picks up a candle.  
He'll light it as he speaks.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)  
Christ is here. Sharing our pain.  
This'll remind us of his presence.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
(eventually)  
I'm going to kill myself, Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Why?

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Do I look good?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

(her coat/top)

Ted Baker.

(her shoes)

Kurt Gieger. Agent provocateur  
knickers. Chanel perfume. I intend  
to make a good impression on that  
slab.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Why do you want to kill yourself?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

I'm an office manager. And over the  
last eight years I've stolen...

(takes out a piece of  
paper)

Two hundred and thirty two  
thousand, six hundred and forty  
eight pounds. And in a week or so,  
for reasons I won't bore you with,  
the boss is going to find out.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

What did you spend it on?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Some of it on me. But I'm a gambler  
and most of it went on machines.

A silence.

ROZ DEMICHELIS (CONT'D)

I know this trick. The silent  
trick. "I'm the fucked up one,  
therefore this silence is my fault,  
therefore I must fill it."

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

It's not a trick. I'm genuinely  
lost for words.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

You could ask me how I'm going to  
do it.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

How are you going to do it?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Well I thought of standing in front  
of a train or throwing myself off a  
high rise block.

(MORE)

ROZ DEMICHELIS (CONT'D)  
But I'd look a mess on the slab  
then, wouldn't I? So it's booze and  
pills.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
When?

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Tonight.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Do you have a family?

That really hurts.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
A bit below if you don't mind me  
saying so, Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
I'm sorry.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Two boys. Fifteen and sixteen. A  
girl, nineteen.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
A husband?

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
You might call him a husband. I  
prefer "sick, twisted gobshite."

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
D'you believe in God?

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
No. I think it's a thousand to one  
that there's an afterlife but it's  
the only chance I've got so I'll  
take it, thank you. You get a lot  
like that, yeah?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Yeah

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
You believe?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Yeah.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
God, heaven, hell, everything?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Yeah. Well, not hell. But  
everything else, yeah.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

So how do we start? Bless-me-father  
and all that?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

If you like.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Bless me, father, for I have  
sinned. It's God knows how many  
years since my last confession and  
I HAVE... I've had other men but  
only when I found out he was having  
other women. And I've stolen two  
hundred and thirty two thousand and  
whatever from my employer.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Is that it?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Yeah. Well there's other stuff but  
nothing special. If I was on Match  
Of The Day, they'd be the bits you  
see: the men and the money.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

And are you sorry?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Not about the men, no. And as for  
the money, I'm just sorry I've been  
caught. That's not enough, is it?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

No.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

You can't absolve me unless I'm  
truly sorry?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Well I don't absolve you. It's God  
who... Please don't kill yourself.

It's such a simple, honest, direct appeal that it almost  
makes her cry.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Thank you.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

If it's shame, you can live with  
shame.

She realises something.



ROZ DEMICHELIS  
You've been there.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Yes.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Suicidal.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Yes.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Over?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Things I did as a young man.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Worse than stealing two hundred and  
thirty two thousand and whatever  
from people who trusted you?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Much worse.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Then how do you cope?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
I atone. I spend my life atoning  
for it and I just hope that when I  
die, I'll have atoned enough.  
Promise me you won't kill yourself  
and I will show you how to atone.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
I can't.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Then promise me you won't kill  
yourself TODAY, promise me you'll  
come back in two or three days and  
I will make you want to live.

She nods.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)  
You promise?

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
I promise.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Will you join me in the Lord's  
Prayer?

She is amazed to hear herself say what she now says.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Yes. Yes, I will.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Our Father, who art in Heaven...

BOTH

Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom  
come; thy will be done...

30                    EXT    SAINT NICK'S CHURCH    NIGHT 8 20.15

30

Father Michael pulling at the huge door/gate to the church.  
It slams shut.

His mobile phone starts ringing. He checks it. It's from  
"Mam". He answers it.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Hi, Mam

MICHAEL'S SISTER BETH (V.O.)

It's Beth. It's Mum's birthday.

Father Michael's reaction: he'd forgotten.

MICHAEL'S SISTER BETH (V.O.)

Phone her on her landline, you  
prick.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Right.

Michael's Sister Beth cuts the call. He scrolls, hits a  
number.

MICHAEL'S MOTHER (V.O.)

(eventually)

Hello.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

"Happy Birthday to you..."

MICHAEL'S MOTHER (V.O.)

(delighted)

I was beginning to think you'd  
forgotten.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Nah. Just never had the chance till  
now. How are you..?

They fade out and we hear someone murdering *Stand By Your Man*  
or similar.

31            INT    SAINT NICK'S SOCIAL CLUB    NIGHT 8 21.10            31

Karaoke at the social club. A woman just finishing *Stand By Your Man* (or whatever). It's the annual football awards.

Father Michael Kerrigan wishing he was elsewhere.

She finishes. Our compère from ep 1 takes to the stage applauding her.

COMPÈRE

Thank you. Thank you, Sharon. Used to work the Tower Ballroom, that girl, till they put in paper towels. Still to come: the raffle and Father Michael's going to draw that for us immediately after the bingo. But next is "Player of the Year" and Arthur's gonna announce that one for us. They all laughed when he said he wanted to be a comedian, you know. Well no one's laughing now. Arthur Clacy, Ladies and Gentlemen.

A spattering of applause.

32            INT    SAINT NICK'S SOCIAL CLUB    NIGHT 8 21.40            32

It's moved on to the bingo.

COMPÈRE

Three and one, thirty one. All the twos, twenty two. Eight and six, eighty six...

Father Michael Kerrigan glances at his watch.

COMPÈRE (CONT'D)

Two fat ladies, eighty eight...

33            INT    FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN'S HOUSE    NIGHT 8 22.15            33

Father Michael enters. He's tired. He checks the answer machine.

AUTOMATED VOICE

You have no new messages.

He goes to the fridge. There's a half-full bottle of wine there. He pours himself a glass, sits down, drinks...

The phone goes. The last thing an exhausted Michael wants to hear. He listens to his own recorded message. And now...

HELEN OYENUSI (V.O.)  
It's Helen Oyenusi here, Father.  
You're probably fast asleep so  
never mind...

34 INT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT. 34

HELEN OYENUSI  
It's just that Vernon wanted a  
word, didn't you, Vernon..?

We go to Vernon. He's falling apart, holding a knife.

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)  
If you play this in the morning,  
maybe you could phone him, Father.

35 INT FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT. 35

Father Michael listens. Should he pick it up, should he pick it up...?

HELEN OYENUSI (V.O.)  
You know what he's like. Doesn't  
believe a word his mother tells him  
but everything you say is gospel.  
No pun intended, Father.

It goes dead. Father Michael, feeling as guilty as sin, takes another sip of wine.

36 INT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 22.50 36

Time has passed. Vernon is even more agitated.

VERNON OYENUSI  
Phone him again.

HELEN OYENUSI  
He's in bed, Vernon.

VERNON OYENUSI  
He's not. They won't let him pick  
up the phone.

HELEN OYENUSI  
Who won't let him?

VERNON OYENUSI  
You know who.

That makes up her mind for her. She picks up the phone again.

HELEN OYENUSI  
Can I call the crisis team, Vernon?

VERNON OYENUSI

No.

HELEN OYENUSI

You're holding a knife, Vernon, and I'm scared of what...

VERNON OYENUSI

They're not coming in here.

HELEN OYENUSI

...you might do with it. Not scared for myself. I know...

VERNON OYENUSI

They're not coming in here.

HELEN OYENUSI

...you wouldn't do anything to hurt your mother but I'm scared of what...

VERNON OYENUSI

They're not coming in here.

HELEN OYENUSI

...you might do to yourself so I'm gonna phone the crisis team, Vernon, and they'll come and give you something and...

VERNON OYENUSI

Do not phone them!

HELEN OYENUSI

...everything will be fine.

She is dialling.

VERNON OYENUSI

Do not phone them!

HELEN OYENUSI

I have to. I will not let you hurt yourself.

(down phone)

Oh, hello, it's Helen Oyenusi here...

37

EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE    NIGHT 8 23.30

37

Two nurses (the crisis team) pull up in a car. They approach the Oyenusi's front door. They ring the bell.

It is pulled violently open but slams against its chain. Vernon's face seems wedged in the narrow gap.

VERNON OYENUSI

Go away. I will not let you in. I  
will do this  
(knife to his own throat)  
Before I let you in. Now go!

He slams the door shut again.

The nurses look at each other. One of them takes out her phone and punches in a number.

38 EXT ROAD NIGHT 8 23.50 38

A police car hurtling along, siren blaring.

39 INT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT. 39

Vernon, pacing, hears the siren. His mother too.

HELEN OYENUSI

The police are coming, son, and we have to let them in.

VERNON OYENUSI

No.

HELEN OYENUSI

We'll let them in and we'll let the crisis team in and they'll...

VERNON OYENUSI

No.

HELEN OYENUSI

...give you something and  
everything will be fine. You're  
only feeling like...

VERNON OYENUSI

No one's coming in.

HELEN OYENUSI

...this because it's your first night away from the centre and as soon as they give you something for it you'll be fine.

VERNON OYENUSI

No one's coming in.

The bell goes. Vernon opens the door, pulling it back on its chain again.

Our police officer again.

VERNON OYENUSI (CONT'D)  
No one's coming in.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
It's me, Vernon.

VERNON OYENUSI  
Go away.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
It's Andrew. Andrew Powell. What  
are you doing with the knife,  
Vernon?

VERNON OYENUSI  
I am protecting myself. There are  
people who want to do me harm so I  
am protecting myself with this  
knife.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
Who wants to do you harm, Vernon?

40            EXT    REAR OF HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE    NIGHT 8 CONT.            40

P.C. Dawn Morris is scaling the backyard wall, dropping down,  
opening the backyard door to let her colleague P.C. Ian  
Wakefield in from the alley.

They both approach the back door to the house.

41            INT/EXT    HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE    NIGHT 8 CONT.            41

Vernon and P.C. Andrew Powell still talking through the gap  
in the door.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
I'll see to it that no one hurts  
you, Vernon. Just put down the  
knife and

VERNON OYENUSI  
No

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
...open the door for me and...

VERNON OYENUSI  
No.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
We'll all sit down nice and calm  
and talk it through.

VERNON OYENUSI  
No.

42 EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT. 42

More police cars are arriving, sirens blaring.  
Armed police get out and take up positions.

43 INT/EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT. 43

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
Is your Mum there, Vernon?

Yeah. VERNON OYENUSI

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
Can I talk to her?

But two officers (Dawn and Ian) are suddenly standing behind Vernon.

P.C. DAWN MORRIS  
Put the knife down please.

VERNON OYENUSI  
(turning)  
Get out.

She is loosening the gas canister

P.C. DAWN MORRIS  
Put it down.

VERNON OYENUSI  
Get out now!

P.C. DAWN MORRIS  
If you don't put the knife down,  
we'll have...

HELEN OYENUSI  
(of the canister)  
What is that?

P.C. DAWN MORRIS  
...to spray you and we don't want  
to do that because...

P.C. IAN WAKEFIELD  
(to Dawn)  
You sure about this?

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
He's sick. Don't spray him.

P.C. DAWN MORRIS  
...it'll hurt you. It'll hurt you a  
great deal.



VERNON OYENUSI  
Get out of this house!

HELEN OYENUSI  
What is it?

Vernon puts the knife to his own throat. P.C. Andrew Powell starts kicking/shoulder-charging the door.

P.C. DAWN MORRIS  
Drop the knife.

VERNON OYENUSI  
Get out. Get out now. Get out now  
before I do something very, very...

The door is forced open as, simultaneously, she sprays Vernon.

Helen screams. Vernon, blinded, roars in agony. He starts waving the knife to ward off any further attack and this keeps PC Andrew Powell at bay.

Vernon blunders through the damaged front door.

His mother goes to follow him but P.C. Andrew Powell grabs her in a bear hug.

44                    EXT    HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE    NIGHT 8 CONT.                    44

Vernon, in agony, hardly able to breathe, is heading blindly towards the police.

VERNON OYENUSI  
I'm blind.

SERGEANT DENIS KILCAID  
Armed police. Put down the knife.

VERNON OYENUSI  
I'm blind.

SERGEANT DENIS KILCAID  
Armed police. Put down the knife or  
I will fire.

VERNON OYENUSI  
They've burnt my eyes.

He shoots Vernon through the chest.

45                    INT    HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE    NIGHT 8 CONT.                    45

Helen and P.C. Andrew Powell have heard the shot. She breaks free of the officer and heads for the street. He follows.

P.C. IAN WAKEFIELD  
(to Dawn)  
You stupid bitch!

46                    EXT   HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE   NIGHT 8 CONT.                    46

Helen, P.C. Andrew Powell and Sergeant Kilcaid approaching  
Vernon's body.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL  
(to Kilcaid)  
What were you thinking of?

Helen squats next to her son's body, holds him.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL (CONT'D)  
For God's sake, man, what were you  
thinking of?

47                    INT   FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN'S HOUSE   DAY 9 08.00                    47

Bedroom. An alarm clock buzzing. Father Michael wakes. He's  
slept in.

48                    INT   SAINT NICK'S CHURCH   DAY 9 09.00                    48

Sacristy. Father Michael pulling on his vestments. He briefly  
checks himself in the mirror, steels himself, leaves...

49                    INT   SAINT NICK'S CHURCH   DAY 9 CONT.                    49

Michael Kerrigan enters. As at the start of this series,  
there are a dozen or so regulars here and a few parents with  
children.

Father Michael bows to the altar and turns and faces the  
people.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
In the name of the Father and of  
the Son and of the Holy Spirit...

ALL  
Amen.

He extends his arms.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
The grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
and the love of God and the  
communion of the Holy Spirit be  
with you all.

ALL  
And with your spirit..

50            INT    SAINT NICK'S CHURCH    DAY 9 09.35            50

We leap forward to the consecration...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
For on the night he was betrayed he  
himself took bread, and giving you  
thanks, he said the blessing, broke  
the bread and gave it to his  
disciples saying, "Take this, all  
of you, and eat of it: for this is  
my body which will be given up for  
you."

A bell rings as he holds the host aloft.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)  
In a similar way, when supper was  
ended, he took the chalice and,  
giving you thanks, he said the  
blessing, and gave the chalice to  
his disciples saying...  
    (holding the chalice  
        aloft)  
"Take this, all of you, and drink  
from it: for this is the chalice of  
my blood..."

\*

51            FLASHBACK    INT    CORRIDOR/SHOWERS    DAY            51

*The same corridor as before.*

*Inside the showers, the sound of whipping and the flash of a  
towel.*

*Father Matthew looms.*

*An unidentified boy once more fastens the last buttons on his  
shirt.*

52            INT    SAINT NICK'S CHURCH    DAY 9 CONT.            52

Father Michael is struggling.

Christina Fitzsimmons is amongst the congregation. She  
realises there's something wrong with him. He looks, catches  
her eye. It makes it even worse.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(struggling)

The blood of the new and eternal  
covenant which will be poured out  
for you and for many for the  
forgiveness of sins. Do this in  
memory of me."

Again a bell rings.

53            INT    SAINT NICK'S CHURCH    DAY 9 10.15

53

The mass has moved on.

The Headmistress of the primary school is reading out the bidding prayers (requests for prayers for the sick, the bereaved and the dead).

HEADMISTRESS

... Her daughter Christina is with us today along with her beloved grandchild Lisa and we remember all of them in our prayers. And, finally, we remember Vernon Oyenusi who was so tragically taken from us last night and, of course, his...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

What?

HEADMISTRESS

Yes?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Vernon Oyenusi.

HEADMISTRESS

You haven't heard, Father?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

No.

HEADMISTRESS

He was shot dead by police last night.

(continuing)

And we ask Almighty God to ease the grief of his mother Helen Oyenusi whom many of us have known since she first came here four or five years ago...

Father Michael is almost reeling...

HEADMISTRESS (CONT'D)

We remember all of them in our prayers.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(struggling even more now)

I know the First Holy Communion children are here but I'm gonna have to leave immediately the mass finishes, I'm so sorry...

Hard cut to Father Michael walking fast...

54                    EXT    HELEN OYENUSI'S STREET    DAY 9 10.45                    54

Father Michael Kerrigan turning into Helen Oyenusi's street. Ahead of him are police vehicles and whatnot. Helen's house and the "scene of crime" have been sealed off.

He approaches a copper.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
How did it happen?

And now the first lie...

POLICE OFFICER  
I don't know.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Where is she?

POLICE OFFICER  
His mother?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Yes.

POLICE OFFICER  
Hospital. The General.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Is she hurt?

POLICE OFFICER  
No. He's there. The morgue.

Father Michael walks off, back the way he came.

55                    INT    HOSPITAL    DAY 9 11.10                    55

A maze of corridors. We hear footsteps. Father Michael appears from the right, disappears left. His footsteps stop, start again. He reappears from the left. He's lost for a moment. He turns towards us, walks past us.

56                    INT    HOSPITAL    DAY 9 11.15                    56

Helen stands alone in her own tortured world.

Father Michael approaches. They embrace.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
What happened?

HELEN OYENUSI  
He got sicker and sicker. I phoned  
the crisis team.  
(MORE)

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)  
He wouldn't let them in so they  
phoned the police and the police  
gassed him and shot him.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Why didn't you phone me?

HELEN OYENUSI  
I knew you were in bed. I'd phoned  
earlier and you didn't answer so I  
knew you were in bed.

That devastates Father Michael.

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)  
They won't let me see him. They  
said you can, I can't.

57                    INT    MORGUE    DAY 9 11.35                    57

A mortuary assistant leading Father Michael. They come to a  
bodybag on a slab.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
May I?

Undo the bag he means.

MORTUARY ASSISTANT  
I'm afraid not. Evidence.

Father Michael hesitates: it's all faintly ludicrous but...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Have mercy on Vernon Oyenusi, Lord.  
Forgive him his sins and grant him  
eternal rest. Amen.

58                    INT    HOSPITAL    DAY 9 12.00                    58

Father Michael enters. Helen Oyenusi is here. Also, a young  
woman: a liaison officer.

HELEN OYENUSI  
This lady's a police liaison  
officer. I've told her I do not  
want one. I will get all the help I  
need from my priest and my church.  
Police officers have done enough  
for now, thank you very much.

LIAISON OFFICER  
Helen will need somewhere to sleep  
tonight. We've still not finished  
with the house.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
She can stay with me.

LIAISON OFFICER  
And the chief inspector has asked  
to see her. Four o'clock if  
possible.

Father Michael looks to Helen. She nods.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
I'll come with her.

LIAISON OFFICER  
Thanks. Bye, Helen.

No response.

LIAISON OFFICER (CONT'D)  
Bye, Father.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Bye.

She goes - so Helen can now ask...

HELEN OYENUSI  
They let you see him?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
(nods)  
He looks so peaceful, Helen.

A lie but it's a crumb of comfort she devours.

59                    INT    POLICE STATION    DAY 9 16.10

59

Father Michael, Helen Oyenusi, the Chief Inspector and other  
uniformed officers. Mid-meeting...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Helen WILL have questions, yes. Why  
Vernon was discharged from the  
centre will be one of them, I'm  
sure. As will why police shot dead  
a boy who wouldn't harm a fly. But  
that will all have to wait because  
Helen can't even think straight  
right now.

CHIEF INSPECTOR MCDONALD  
Of course. The officer who used the  
spray says she did so because she  
feared for Mrs Oyenusi's safety. As  
does...



HELEN OYENUSI

That's not true.

CHIEF INSPECTOR MCDONALD

That is what she says but, of course, every statement, every piece of evidence will be thoroughly tested...

We fade out. Michael knows there's going to be a cover-up.

60            EXT    FATHER PETER FLAHERTY'S HOUSE    NIGHT 9 21.00            60

Father Michael approaches the house, rings the doorbell.

Father Peter Flaherty opens the door.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(entering)

Thanks for this.

61            INT    FATHER PETER FLAHERTY'S HOUSE    NIGHT 9 21.10            61

They're drinking tea.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I got back late. Knackered. The phone rang. Helen Oyenusi about Vernon. I'd have picked up but seeing them earlier gave me an excuse not to: "They've already had a piece of me." Not quite as brutal as that but almost. So I didn't pick up. And a few hours later he was dead.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY

And if you'd picked up?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I don't know. I might have spoken to him, realised how bad he was, gone galloping round there on my white charger, saved the day.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY

And you might not.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes.

(pause)

I feel I should tell her.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY

What good will that do?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Well, undeniably it will...

He jabs his finger into his skull (or whatever) to indicate the easing of conscience. A pause.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)  
You still off the sugar?

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY  
(nods)  
Four days now. Puts the crucifixion into perspective, doesn't it?  
(beat)  
She needs you, Michael. She has to have total faith in you. You can't destroy that just to clear your own conscience.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
It's not that.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY  
No?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
No. You lose a loved one suddenly, unnaturally, you want to know everything, Peter. Every detail. People try to hide it from you, thinking it too painful but how dare they? You've lost a son; nothing can be worse than that. And I'm going to be helping her in that quest, Peter. The police will tell her lies and we'll expose those lies. "Total truth please, officer." I can't do that while hiding an inconvenient truth of my own: that, had I acted, her son might well be alive.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY  
What she doesn't know won't hurt her.

Father Michael couldn't disagree more.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Good night.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY  
Have I offended you?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
No, I'm just a bit tired.

62 EXT FATHER PETER FLAHERTY'S HOUSE NIGHT 9 21.15 62

Father Michael leaving.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY  
Good night, Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Good night, Peter.

Father Michael walks away.

63 OMITTED 63

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64          EXT  STREETS  DAY 10 10.00          64
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Sudden energy, joy...

Little Lisa Fitzsimmons, delighted, is hurtling along a street. She turns into her own street and hurtles down it towards her house.

She bangs on the front door. One of the boys opens it. She hurries inside.

65 INT CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S HOUSE DAY 10 CONT. 65

Lisa runs up the lobby and bursts into the living room. Her Mum, Christina, is here and her aunty, Mariella.

Mariella offers her a little bag/parcel. She takes it, opens it. It's a beautiful communion dress.

Tears of joy. We start to hear a hymn.

66 INT CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S HOUSE DAY 10 10.30 66

The hymn continues. Lisa in her communion dress, the two women beaming, the two boys immersed in Minecraft...

67 EXT STREETS DAY 10 13.00 67

Lisa in her communion dress making her way up the street with her Mum and her Aunt.

Another girl in another street.

A boy in yet another street.

And another girl in the most flamboyant dress you have ever seen. Her parents walk proudly alongside her.

The hymn continues.

68 INT SAINT NICK'S CHURCH DAY 10 13.30 68

The church is packed.

The hymn continues. Girls in communion dresses make their way up the aisle. Boys in shirts and ties.

Lisa...

# The Girl In The Flamboyant Dress...

A beaming Father Michael Kerrigan begins to distribute communion.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
The body of Christ.

BOY  
Amen.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
The body of Christ.

GIRL

Amen.

On and on. Body of Christ. Amen. Body of Christ. Amen...

We go to the parents of the Girl In The Flamboyant Dress. Her father's finger hovers over a remote control. Back to Father Michael. He's nearing Lisa Fitzsimmons.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The body of Christ.

GIRL

Amen.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The body of Christ.

LISA FITZSIMMONS

Amen.

He's only two away from the Girl In The Flamboyant Dress and her parents can hardly contain their excitement.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The body of Christ.

BOY

Amen.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The body of Christ.

GIRL IN FLAMBOYANT DRESS

Amen.

The girl's father hits the button on the remote and the girl's flamboyant dress begins to flash like a super charged Christmas Tree. It starts playing music too.

Father Michael's reaction. This is a new one even for him...

Miss Pauline Pickering can hardly believe her eyes.

Christina Fitzsimmons's reaction. Mariella's. Other parents'.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(resuming)

The body of Christ.

BOY

Amen.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The body of Christ...

69            INT    SAINT NICK'S CHURCH    DAY 10 14.00

69

The Mass is over.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
The children were a credit to you  
all. Their appearance obviously  
but, more importantly, their  
behaviour throughout the entire  
Mass. And finally I have to mention  
one person without whom today  
wouldn't have happened. Miss  
Pickering.

Pauline Pickering is astounded.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)  
Apparently this is the twentieth  
First Holy Communion celebration  
she has organised so...  
(to Lisa)  
Would you, Lisa?

Little Lisa picking up a bouquet and walking towards Miss  
Pickering.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)  
Miss Pickering, on behalf of us  
all, thank you.

It's the first time in twenty years that anything like this  
has happened to her and, overcome, Miss Pickering begins to  
sob and sob...

She points to her tears and, still sobbing:

PAULINE PICKERING  
I'm so happy!

70            EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE    DAY 10 15.50

70

Helen, Father Michael, Chief Inspector McDonald and the  
Liaison Officer are walking back to Helen's house. They pass  
a little shrine of flowers and messages about Vernon. Helen  
starts reading one and stops almost immediately, puts it  
back, walks on.

They reach the house. She stops, stares straight ahead.

HELEN OYENUSI  
When can I see him?

LIAISON OFFICER  
The post mortem's tomorrow. As soon  
as that's over.

HELEN OYENUSI

Thanks.

In other words, I'm not inviting you in.

Helen and Father Michael enter the house, close the door on the officers.

71 INT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE DAY 10 CONT.

71

Father Michael sees the damaged security chain.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

What happened?

HELEN OYENUSI

Policeman did it. That night.

Father Michael suddenly snaps, yanks open the front door.

72 EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE DAY 10 CONT.

72

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(loud, angry)

Couldn't you have fixed the chain?!

The officers stop, look back.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

For God's sake, she's grieving,  
vulnerable, alone, so couldn't you  
have fixed the bloody...

He stops, gets a grip of himself, shuts the door.

73 INT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE DAY 10 CONT.

73

Father Michael, full of pain, full of guilt. She misreads it, touches his arm (or whatever) in sympathy, walks away towards the kitchen.

And that makes Father Michael feel even worse.

74 INT CONFSSIONAL NIGHT 10 21.15

74

Father Michael, lost in thought, troubled. Someone enters.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Hello again, Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Hello again, Roz.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Shall I?

Sit, she means. She's wearing her office clothes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes. Am I alright here?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

How are you?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Well, this is not my going away outfit so no immediate panic but I'm still going to do it I'm afraid.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

When?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Soon.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

May I?

Light a candle, he means. It happens to be a brand new one.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Yes. Am I your first?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

No.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

But I'm the first you've needed a candle for?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes.

So she pulls an aren't-I-special face. He smiles.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Go on then.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Sorry?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

You said you'd give me a reason to go on living.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

If I said that, it was...



ROZ DEMICHELIS

You DID.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

It was arrogant of me, I'm sorry.  
But I could suggest something.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Go on.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

It'll take guts.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

I've got guts.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

You lost most of the money on  
machines?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Those machines in the betting shop?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The more you lost the more you  
chased those losses?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Tell the world.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

What?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I want you to tell the world what  
those machines have done to you.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

I'm killing myself because it's  
gonna make the local paper. You  
want me to tell the world?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes. There are four betting shops  
in Hallcross Road. No bank, no post  
office, no chemist but four betting  
shops. Why? Why four when everyone  
round there's skint? Those  
machines, Roz, that's why.

(MORE)

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

Four in each shop, sixteen in all,  
and each one sucking up thousands  
because they're addictive. It's not  
just you, it's everyone. You're not  
a criminal; you're not a villain;  
you're a victim.

She wants to believe him BUT...

ROZ DEMICHELIS

I don't think my boss would see it  
that way.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

What made you steal that money? The  
machines. Who got that money? The  
machines. Tell the world. If you  
don't tell the world, it's a guilty  
secret that's gonna be revealed  
anyway. If you DO tell the world,  
it's a campaign, it's your reason  
for living.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

I'll go to prison.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Not immediately. And not forever.

She's tempted but frightened...

ROZ DEMICHELIS

What did you do?

He won't go there.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Others will come forward, Roz. With  
stories very similar to yours. We  
could get together, keep together  
until there's not one machine left  
in Hallcross Road.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

(so tempted, so  
frightened)  
What did you do?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Promise me you'll think about it.  
(She nods)  
Promise me you'll come back and see  
me, you won't do anything until  
you've seen me again.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

I promise. What did you do?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
I'm here to listen to you, Roz, not  
to...

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
You said you did something worse  
than stealing two hundred and odd  
thousand pounds. What was it?

He hesitates...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
I've done two things worse than  
that. One of them's too recent, too  
raw.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
The other?

Again he hesitates.

ROZ DEMICHELIS (CONT'D)  
Who d'you think Jesus confided in?  
Peter with a poker up his arse?  
Judas? Nah: Mary Magdalen. She'd  
been there, done it, bought the tee-  
shirt. She understood.

He comes to a huge decision. He WILL tell her.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
I treated young women very badly.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
When?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
When I was eighteen, nineteen. Not  
all young women, just the ones I  
had sex with.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Why?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Because they let me have sex with  
them. It was forty years ago and I  
could live with it then. Forty  
years ago the only good woman  
there'd ever been was the Virgin  
Mary 'cause she'd never done it  
with anyone whereas a girl who did  
it with a boy, any boy, was filth  
and if she did it with me, a boy  
from whom every last bit of self  
esteem was well and truly banished,  
well she was less than filth;  
(MORE)

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)  
she was scum, and you can treat  
scum any way you want.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Do you remember who they were?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Yes.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
All of them?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Yes.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Have you seen any of them since?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
In here (head) every day. I tell  
myself that one day I'll track them  
down and apologise. But I don't  
think I could. Or should?  
(Looks at her)

She finds that amusing - or professes to.

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
You know what the answer to that  
is, Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN  
Do I?

ROZ DEMICHELIS  
Yes. "You should do what your  
conscience tells you to do."

Father Michael's reaction.

75            OMITTED            75

76            OMITTED            76

77            EXT   MOVING BUS   DAY 11 11.00            77

Father Michael sitting next to Helen Oyenusi on the moving  
bus. He wants to tell her...

But he can't...

78                    EXT    MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE    DAY 11 11.10                    78

Helen and Father Michael enter the health centre from where  
Vernon Oyenusi was sent home.

79                    INT    MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE    DAY 11 CONT.                    79

The youngish case worker sees them approaching. She is at a  
loss.

                                 CASE WORKER  
                                 Hello, Helen.

                                 HELEN OYENUSI  
                                 Hello.

                                 CASE WORKER  
                                 Father.

Father Michael nods. He can't disguise his anger.

                                 CASE WORKER (CONT'D)  
                                 Trish is on her way.

                                 HELEN OYENUSI  
                                 Good.

It's so, so difficult...

                                 CASE WORKER  
                                 Would you like to see what we've  
                                 got?

                                 HELEN OYENUSI  
                                 Please.

                                 CASE WORKER  
                                 This way.

80                    INT    MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE    DAY 11 CONT.                    80

They enter a room, artwork and photographs all over the walls

                                 CASE WORKER  
                                 (at a table)  
                                 This is a log of every call, text  
                                 and e-mail we got about Vernon.  
                                 Would you like it?

                                 HELEN OYENUSI  
                                 Please.

                                 CASE WORKER  
                                 There'll be more but we'll pass  
                                 them on as well.  
                                 (another file)  
                                 (MORE)

CASE WORKER (CONT'D)  
And these are photographs taken  
throughout his time with us.

Helen looking at them...

The case worker, hopelessly out of her depth, looks to Father Michael for reassurance, finds none.

CASE WORKER (CONT'D)  
On the wall there's some of his...

The senior case worker arrives - much to her junior's relief.

SENIOR CASE WORKER  
I am so, so sorry!  
(approaching Helen)  
I am so, so sorry, Helen. Please  
say you forgive me.

HELEN OYENUSI  
There's nothing TO forgive: you  
didn't want to send him away from  
here. I'm here to say thank you,  
Trish. Thank you for making him so  
happy. He loved it here and that  
was down to you.

That reduces the senior case worker to tears. She and Helen Oyenusi embrace. In the embrace, Helen extends an arm and the junior case worker joins them.

Father Michael, profoundly moved, watches them.