

'The Walshes'
Episode 1
'THE NEW FELLA'

by

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1 INT. CIARA'S BEDROOM. DAY

1

Ciara, a young woman, wrapped in towels, getting ready for a night out.

She seems to be living in quite a well-tended bedsit. Everything a young single woman might need is in there... tiny TV, tiny sink etc.

There are some photos on the wall of what looks like a gap year holiday... palm trees, exotic animals, and young twenty somethings having what looks like the time of their lives.

Ciara opens the tiny bedside locker and takes out a large white candle-- 'THAILAND NIGHTS' is written on the side.

CUT TO:

2 INT. BATHROOM. DAY

2

The candle being lit by the side of a steaming bath to the sound of gentle chimes from an unseen music player. Ciara lowers herself into the bath.

She sighs, deeply.

Suddenly, the door starts rattling.

CARMEL

What's the door closed for? This door's closed! Who's in here? Ciara?

CIARA

Mum I'm in the bath!

CARMEL

The door's locked! Are you all right? Ciara!

CIARA

I'm all right!

The door starts to bang, as if someone's trying to shoulder it open. BOOM. BOOM.

CIARA (CONT'D)

Don't! Please, Mum! Please leave me alone!

Suddenly, the door bangs open, a gust of air blowing out all the candles and Carmel is inside.

CARMEL

Holy God! Are you all right? Is the light broken?

She snaps the light on. The room is suddenly flooded with horrible bright light.

CARMEL (CONT'D)
No, it's working.

She turns the light on and off a few times, to be sure.

CIARA
I want the light off!

CARMEL
What do you want the light off
while you're having a bath for?
You'll drown!

CIARA
I won't drown! I'm not a puppy!

CARMEL
Here, I want your opinion on
something.

CIARA
Oh just leave me alone!

She leaves and comes back in with a gravy boat and a spoon.

CARMEL
Oh, shut up. Everyone's got a bum.
Taste this gravy.

CIARA
I don't want to taste a gravy! I'm
trying to pretend I'm in Thailand!

CARMEL
Does it need more hot water or more
granules?

CUT TO:

3 INT. WALSHES' KITCHEN. DAY

3

Fade up on a photograph of a family. The adults in the picture look as delighted as the two kids, a boy and a girl (at somewhere like Eurodisney). Everyone wears huge smiles.

The photo is pinned to a fridge in a cheerful, but basic kitchen.

A radio sits in the corner of the kitchen.

TALK RADIO GUEST (O.S.)
The problem being, that with the
recession biting...

TALK RADIO HOST
...they can't move out...

TALK RADIO GUEST
--that's right, the younger members
of the household are finding it
harder...

A woman is busying about in the kitchen. This is CARMEL WALSH, a cheerful, cardiganed Mum with a glint of madness in her eyes. She pets USELESS, a little dog scampering through the room.

TALK RADIO HOST
..with house prices being what they
are, and the economy being what it
is...

TALK RADIO GUEST
Exactly. So you have families
living on top of each other and...
it's not a good situation for
anyone.

MARTIN ALLEN, a gently vacant, slow moving middle aged man
kneels by the fridge with his tool box.

CARMEL
Any joy there now, Martin?

MARTIN
What's been going on with it,
Carmel?

CARMEL
What's right with it? It turns off
at the drop of a hat. It keeps
trying to electrocute me. It makes
the milk warm. Sometimes I can hear
it crying in the middle of the
night.

MARTIN
Crying?

CARMEL
Yeah you know like -
(high pitched whine)
-that sort of thing. It's a
demented fridge.

MARTIN
But apart from that?

CARMEL
But apart from that, it's grand.

TONY WALSH, a small lively-looking man wearing, amongst other things, a moustache, enters the kitchen. He nods at Martin.

TONY

Ah, What a sight to behold! The most beautiful creature in all of Ireland. And he's talking to my wife!

CARMEL

Tony, in future you wouldn't mind just trying to sweat more evenly? It's all in the neck there. Boil wash does nothing. You've nothing to wear tonight!

TONY

What's tonight?

CARMEL

You know what's tonight!

TONY

That's tonight? They'll be gone by nine though won't they?!

CARMEL

Well, I don't know. It depends on whether I've had a good look at him.

CARMEL (CONT'D)

Oh I saw that!

TONY

It's nothin'.

CARMEL

WILL you make a doctor's appointment?

TONY

Carmel we can't afford it! Just wait till I have one more ailment, then I get my money's worth. I got that thing on my foot I wanna get checked out as well.

CARMEL

Arra, Tony. Come on. You can't keep avoiding the issue!

TONY

I'm not avoiding the issue! I'm picking Rory up from work!

CARMEL
You have to have that bottom looked
at!

TONY
Stop talking about it in front of
Martin!

MARTIN
Yes, Tony?

...but Tony's gone.

4 EXT. MAIN STREET - FUTURE VIDEO SHOP. DAY

4

RORY WALSH is locking up the shutters of a virtually derelict
DVD rental shop. An approaching car flashes and beeps.

Tony pulls up and calls from the car.

TONY
Lockin' up? Fair play to ya. They
have you practically runnin' the
place now.

RORY
Yeah.

TONY
Come on, then.

Rory runs to the open car door, but as he tries to step in,
Tony jolts forward, laughing as he does.

RORY
Haha!

TONY
Ah, I'm only coddin' ya. Hop in.

Rory tries again, but Tony repeats the trick.

RORY
Ahaha! Brilliant.

TONY
Get in if you're gettin' in Rory!

Rory tries again - but again, Tony lurches the car forward.

5 INT. KITCHEN. DAY

5

An oven door opens and we see a ROAST CHICKEN WITH ALL THE
TRIMMINGS. Carmel's somewhat mad face looking into the oven.

Ciara comes into the kitchen.

CIARA

What are you making gravy for, ma?
Graham's just popping his head in.
We're going out for dinner!

CARMEL

I know!

CIARA

(holds up hairdryer)
Why is this always here?

CARMEL

For drying the shoes. How are you?
How are the nerves? Are you going
mental with them? I know I would
be. I'd be going absolutely mental
round about now.

CIARA

I am a bit worried about...the
impression Graham might get...

CARMEL

Oh, God, yes. With those two
eejits. We need to watch them like
hawks. We wouldn't want them doing
anything that might show us up.

(To herself)

What's is that up my nose? Oh, I
think that's actually meant to be
up there.

6

INT. TONY'S CAR

6

Tony and Rory are driving through Dublin Streets.

RORY

Da - which one would you rather,
right: Not being able to go to the
toilet for the rest of your life,
or ONLY being able to go to the
toilet for the rest of your life?

TONY

Phwoar, tough one Rory. Erm, ONLY
being able to go to the toilet for
the rest of your life.

RORY

Yeah, yeah I'd say the same.
Reasons?

Tony drives straight through a red light

TONY

Well number one, constant relief.

7

EXT. DRIVEWAY. DAY

7

Tony and Rory pull up into driveway in car.

TONY

...we want to get rid of them by
nine though. Thing on I want to
watch.

RORY

Something on the telly is it?

TONY

The Goose!

RORY

Huh?

TONY

The crime boss? From Blanche? The
Goose.

Tony and Rory get out of the car. Rory looks nonplussed.

TONY (CONT'D)

The one, got shot in the face and
now he has a Waterford Crystal
eyeball. The Goose!

RORY

Ohhhhhh! Your man, John Gander. Can
I watch it?

TONY

Rory, you're twenty five. You don't
need to ask me when you can watch
things. So, what do you know about
this fella?

Tony finds a football in the driveway. He passes it to Rory.

RORY

Just that eyeball thing you told
me.

TONY

No, about Ciara's fella--

RORY

Oh! His name's Graham O'Leary and
he's a doctor.

TONY

How'd you find that out?

RORY

I read her texts.

TONY
A Doctor?! Wow.

8 EXT. DOCTOR BURGER. DAY. 8

Doctor Burger Establiher.

9 INT. DOCTOR BURGER KITCHEN. DAY 9

A name badge that reads GRAHAM. It's attached to...

...GRAHAM O'LEARY frying hamburger patties in the kitchen of Doctor Burger.

VOICE
(off)
Six nuggets.

GRAHAM
Six nuggets!

10 INT. FRONT DOOR & KITCHEN. DAY 10

Tony and Rory come through the front door.

RORY
...and he's always talking about
how he wants to examine her.

TONY
God almighty. He must be rolling in
it if he can do her for free.

Tony stops when he sees Carmel and Ciara waiting for them in the kitchen.

TONY (CONT'D)
Rory! This isn't our house! This
must be where Cindy Crawford and
Pamela Anderson live! Sorry,
ladies, we'll let you get on with
your day.

RORY
Da! It's mum and Ciara!

CARMEL
All right, you two, listen up! Eyes
and ears. Ciara has something she
wanted to say. Now Ciara. Nice big
loud voice.

CIARA
Yea, again Ma this is for everyone.

CARMEL

Everyone. Did you hear that? That means you two.

CIARA

When Graham is here, if the conversation starts drifting into a dangerous area, I'll say something...

TONY

What do you mean?

CIARA

I'm trying to tell you, Da. A something like a code...or...

RORY

A code?

CARMEL

A safety word. I think that's what Ciara's trying to say. Something to calm things down a bit if it gets a bit hot and heavy.

CIARA

I'll say something like, "It's been very mild recently."

CARMEL

Oh, now that's very clever. Because it hasn't been mild. It's actually been very close. That'll alert us that something's going on.

TONY

Ah well it hasn't been that close.

CARMEL

It has been close, Tony. That thing on your bottom only comes out when it's close.

Rory picks up a list that is in front of him on the table.

RORY

Haha! What's this. It's a brilliant list of rude words! Look Da.

CARMEL

No Rory those are things you're not allowed to talk about. Me and Ciara wrote it up.

RORY

(reading)

These are all the good words!

TONY

Is this necessary? Can we not all
just be ourselves?

CIARA

No!

CARMEL

No!

CARMEL

That is what Ciara and I don't
want. You two eejits being
yourselves.

CIARA

Just to say again Mum, this is for
everyone.

CARMEL

Do you hear that? You two!

RORY

I've literally nothin' left to say
now!

CARMEL

Rory! Now, Ciara, may I add a word
to that list?

CIARA

What?

CARMEL

Fart. I hate it. I absolutely
detest the word 'fart'.

CIARA

It's on there!

CARMEL

No, it isn't.

RORY

It's under snot.

CARMEL

Oh, yes, there it is. Crack, snot,
fart.

RORY

What'll I say instead of 'fart'?
There's only one word for fart!

CIARA

Just don't talk about farts!

TONY

What if farts come up in
conversation?

RORY
(panicking)
What if someone does one?

CARMEL
Well for tonight we'll al just try
to hold them in.

TONY
Is that realistic though, Carmel?

Tony subtly indicates Rory.

Ciara, fuming, takes the gravy boat off Carmel and hurls it
against the wall. She strides out the room. The others are
silent.

CIARA
I bloody hate this family!

CARMEL
- That was our fault, now.

Tense silence. Tony & Rory nod in agreement. PAUSE. Martin
slowly rises to his feet, wiping his hands with a rag.

MARTIN
Right well, that should work fine
for you now.

TONY
Thanks, Martin.

MARTIN
Yeah...I'll go...

CUT TO:

11 EXT. DRIVEWAY. EVENING

11

Graham sits in his rusty hatchback, parked outside the
Walshes house - practicing smiling politely in the mirror.

GRAHAM
(clears throat)
Hello Mr. Walsh. Your house smells
lovely

He makes a note on a piece of paper

GRAHAM (CONT'D)
Hello, Mr. Walsh - very nice
driveway!
(PAUSE)
Oh thank you very much, I got them
in Clark's
(PAUSE)
(MORE)

GRAHAM (CONT'D)

Ah, it has been mild hasn't it? Or
has it been close...

He breathes deeply and jumps when the horn goes off.

CUT TO:

12 INT. KITCHEN. EVENING

12

Carmel picks up the gravy boat remanence. Tony sits, no help.

TONY

Sharp bit beside your knee.

CARMEL

Thankyou.

TONY

Takes ye back.

CARMEL

Hah?

TONY

I was a wreck meetin' Brendan and
Theresa for the first time. Do you
remember?

CARMEL

Well, that was different, Tony.

TONY

How?

CARMEL

Because we had to tell them I was
pregnant!

TONY

Oh, yeah.

CARMEL

AHHH! TONY!

TONY

She's not pregnant!

CARMEL

Of course, yeah, of course...

Pause.

CARMEL (CONT'D)

Tony...Is that why we didn't spend
more time at my parent's house?
Because of Dad chasing you down the
road like that?

TONY
Nah, it's just the way it goes.
Couples end up spendin' all their
time with one side of the family.
It's only natural. The best family
wins!

Carmel looks VERY worried.

TONY (CONT'D)
Where's that pen?

Tony exits to the Sitting Room.

13 INT. SITTING ROOM. EVENING

13

Tony enters room and sits down with newspaper.

TONY
You watchin' this thing tonight,
Martin?

Martin is revealed to be fixing the TV.

MARTIN
What, your man coming over?

TONY
Wha'?

MARTIN
Carmel says Ciara has someone
coming over.

TONY
No. How would... how would you
watch that? The thing...about The
Goose.

MARTIN
A David Attenborough thin?

TONY
No, it's the crime lord fella.

MARTIN
And he's coming over?

TONY
God. No, Martin. It's on
television.

Martin suddenly straightens his tie and looks around
nervously.

MARTIN
Are they upstairs?

TONY

Who?

MARTIN

Is it a hidden camera thing?

TONY

Here, we're talking at cross-purposes, Martin. It's a television program on television, about the Goose.

Martin opens his mouth.

TONY (CONT'D)

(jumping in)

He's not a bird! He's a man. A crime man. He's got an eye made of Waterford crystal.

MARTIN

Oho. That sounds worth watching all right. And how long has he been seeing Ciara?

The doorbell rings.

CARMEL (O.S.)

(shouts from upstairs)

The door! The door! Everybody stay calm!

Tony gets up and moves into the hallway closely followed by Martin.

TONY

Come on, Martin, we'll have a bit of craic with him.

MARTIN

I wouldn't mess with people like that now, Tony.

TONY

Shhh! Shhh! Shhh!

14

INT. FRONT DOOR. EVENING

14

Tony approaches the door giggling like a child. He straightens himself up and opens the door. Graham, nervously clutches two bouquets of flowers.

GRAHAM

Hello, Mrs. Walsh. I'm Graham. I'm Ciara's - friend.

TONY

Ah Graham. Come on in, come on in there!

Graham comes in.

TONY (CONT'D)

Howaya? I'm Tony - Ciara's Da. And this is my life partner, Martin, Ciara's other Da.

GRAHAM

Oh, hello.

TONY

Ciara told you we were a pair of those - didn't she?

GRAHAM

Eh-, no...she didn't mention--

TONY

Oh, yes. I love Martin with all my heart.

MARTIN

Thanks very much, Tony.

TONY

You - don't have - a problem with alternative lifestyles, do you Graham?

GRAHAM

No!

TONY

Good! Martin, tell Graham how we first met.

MARTIN

I live down the road and I came round to borrow ah...can't remember what it was... we got talking and Tony found out I was good with my hands. It just sort of took off from there. Oh it was a whisk!

TONY

That's right! And he whisked me off my feet! C'mere, Gorgeous!

He kisses Martin on his cheek. Martin is bashfully pleased.

Carmel hurries down the stairs.

CARMEL
Tony, stop that. Leave him alone,
Martin.

Tony smiles.

TONY
Ah, sure I'm only messin'.

CARMEL
Now, you must be Graham.

GRAHAM
Hello Mrs. Walsh. Your house smells
magnificent. These are for you.

Graham hands Carmel a bunch of flowers.

CARMEL
(fawning)
Well now, Tony. Isn't he a
gentleman? You're good-looking. You
know who you remind me of? A young
Denzel Washington. God, and you're
as tall. And look at your beautiful
fine hair. I mean you can barely
feel that, it's so fine. Tony, that
is softer than it looks. Feel that.

TONY
I won't. Martin?

Martin touches Graham's hair.

MARTIN
Oh, that's very soft, actually.
Thanks for that.
(to Graham)
Well better be hitting the road.
And good luck with the program
tonight, Mr. Gander. I'll just get
me tools.

Martin exits the hallway.

CARMEL
(quietly to Tony)
She's not responding to me at all
Tony. Will you have a go?

Tony nods and hurries upstairs.

CARMEL (CONT'D)
Ciara's just a little under the
weather. She'll be down in a sec.

GRAHAM
Oh - OK.

CARMEL

(covertly)

Err, just a word of warning - Ciara can be a little - tricky when it comes to her monthly visitation.

GRAHAM

Oh - well, em -

CARMEL

She's fine during it. But the three week lead up can be a bit - tense.

Tony comes back down.

TONY

I dunno. I *may* have made her worse.

CARMEL

Oh, for God's sake.

Carmel hurries back up, leaving Graham and Tony alone and awkward.

TONY

So, I suppose you'll want a tour of the house then.

GRAHAM

Oh - OK.

Tony's points out things in the hallway.

TONY

Radiator. That's a phone.

He stops under a wall of photographs and framed drawings.

Tony points to a terrible tourist caricature of himself hanging up and laughs.

TONY (CONT'D)

Aha!

There is a picture of the whole family (with Rory and Ciara as kids) dressed in Western gear and looking unbelievably happy.

TONY (CONT'D)

Hey look at that one there, that's a picture of my old ancestors in the wid west. Haha. Only messin'. It's us! In a shopping centre. Years ago. Look at Rory. He loved it! He kept begging us to bring him back. Gave in eventually.

He points to another picture of the family dressed in Western gear but with Rory and Ciara as adults.

TONY (CONT'D)
Come on. We'll go upstairs.

Graham looks mortified and then follows Tony up the stairs.

CUT TO:

15 INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY & MASTER BEDROOM. EVENING 15

Tony and Graham arrive upstairs.

TONY
Jack's there. In case you need the
"Oooh jaysus!". Master bedroom.

They enter the Master Bedroom and Tony jumps onto the bed.

TONY (CONT'D)
Feel that. No, get on!

GRAHAM
Oh no I'm OK Mr. Walsh, thank you.

TONY
Go on!

GRAHAM
My jacket's still dirty from the
car, so I won't.

TONY
Then take it off.

Graham reluctantly takes his jacket off and puts the bunch of flowers down.

TONY (CONT'D)
Come on. Lie down.

Graham gets on the bed.

GRAHAM
Yes, it's very nice.

TONY
Soft isn't it? It's very soft.

TONY (CONT'D)
Y'see Carmel likes her side of the
bed to be soft. But I like my side
to be hard. So, I bought 2
mattresses, chopped them in half
and stuck them together. Soft.
(MORE)

TONY (CONT'D)
Hard. Soft. Hard. Soft. Hard. You
don't believe me do you?

GRAHAM
Oh no I do.

TONY
Go on, try my side. Go on, switch.

Tony clambers over Graham forcing him to switch sides on the bed.

TONY (CONT'D)
See?

GRAHAM
Yeah, This is a little bit harder
alright.

CUT TO:

16 INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY & RORY'S BEDROOM. EVENING 16

Tony leads Graham out of Master bedroom to the hallway outside Ciara's and Rory's rooms.

We can hear yelps and muffled sounds from inside Ciara's room - 37A.

TONY
She likes to pretend she doesn't
live with us so we stuck a flat
number on her door and leave the
post outside. It seems to do the
job.

Tony points at a door with a sticker reading 'Enter At Your Own Risk'

TONY (CONT'D)
Did you bring your gas mask? Cos
it's time to put it on. We're going
in!

Tony opens the door and enters.

17 INT. RORY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS 17

Tony and Graham enter a dark, dingy room, full of wrestling magazines, LYNX cans and action figures.

GRAHAM
I didn't know Ciara had a younger
brother.

TONY
She doesn't.

The bedspread starts to move and Rory reveals himself underneath, reading the Guinness book of records by torch light.

GRAHAM
Oh, yes. Hello.

RORY
I'm twenty five.

GRAHAM
Yes. No. Absolutely.

Rory gets out of the bed.

RORY
Is this him?

TONY
Yes.

There's a particularly loud SMASH from Ciara's room.

TONY (CONT'D)
I better, go check on that. Scuse
me, lads.

Tony hurries out, leaving Graham and Rory. Rory eyes Graham and approaches him.

RORY
What do you think of my space?

GRAHAM
Oh yeah, it's very nice.

RORY
So - you goin' out with Ciara?

GRAHAM
Em - yes.

RORY
You better not hurt her. Cos if you
hurt her

Rory punches hand into his hand.

RORY (CONT'D)
I'll hurt her. You. I'll hurt you.

GRAHAM
Oh, okay.

Tony re-enters the room.

TONY
Like World War 3 in there. Better
get downstairs.

Tony mimes explosion.

They all exit out of the room and past Ciara's room.

18 INT. GARAGE - PRESENTLY

18

Tony stops outside a door.

TONY
Now. Graham. You're about to enter
the inner sanctum.

He has the key on a pendant around his neck. It takes him
ages to retrieve it, and then put it in the lock.

GRAHAM
Will Ciara be down soon?

TONY
Who cares? It's lads o'clock.

Tony leads Graham into the garage with Rory now in tow. This
is Tony's den. There are a few bottles of Miller on the
floor.

TONY (CONT'D)
From Xanadu did Peter Pan, a
pleasure dome erect. Oscar Wilde.
Cheeky beer, yeah?

RORY
Get us a energy drink Dad.

TONY
Yeah energy drink for Rory. Beer,
beer.

Tony opens the fridge and grabs two cans of beer, plus a Big
Beast drink for Rory.

TONY (CONT'D)
Hehe this is what I'm talking
about.

TONY (CONT'D)
You see that?

Tony points at a bockety looking work bench.

TONY (CONT'D)
Guess much I paid for that?

GRAHAM

Fffffiiii....fooooouuuurr....

TONY

Try zero. Try zero, Graham. Cobbled it together from some shite I found in a skip. Literally.

RORY

Da's amazin' at DIY. He made me a chill out zone in the back garden. It's up a tree so I can read magazines and watch the sun set.

GRAHAM

Oh like a tree house?

RORY

(disgusted)

No!

GRAHAM

Are those...lungs?

He's pointing at two lumps of flat red material in a frame.

TONY

Lungs? They're me old boxing gloves.

GRAHAM

Oh you used to be a boxer?

TONY

(jokey)

So, you better watch yourself!

Tony goes to pretend punch Graham, but catches him.

GRAHAM

Ohh!

TONY

Oh, Jaysus! Sorry, Graham. I was only messin'. Are ya alright?

GRAHAM

(gripping his face)

Oh - I'm OK - Ah.

RORY

Da, you're after punchin' him in the face!

TONY

Sorry about that now, Graham.

GRAHAM

It's alright honestly - I'm OK.

TONY

Oh, God. You moved. You know that?
Don't ya? You shouldn't move when
someone's pretendin' to punch ya.

GRAHAM

Oh, sorry.

TONY

OK, well, eh -
(clears throat)
Eh - Rory. I was hopin' to have a
quiet word with Graham. You
wouldn't mind?

RORY

Can I listen?

TONY

TONY (CONT'D)

No.

RORY

Oh, dad please?

TONY

Oh, Rory, will you do me a favour?
(winks at Graham)
Will ya run into your Ma and ask
her for the long stand?

RORY

No Da, she never knows where that
is.

TONY

She does. Just ask her.

RORY

(huffs)

She's always ages looking for it.
And then she can never find it. I'm
starting to think we don't have
one.

Rory shuffles out.

TONY

Good man.

Tony locks the door.

TONY (CONT'D)
(clears throat)
Well. Here we are.

GRAHAM
Yes. Yes.

Pause.

TONY
Graham... this is a bit
embarrassing.

GRAHAM
Y...Yes?

TONY
I have a small... I don't know what
you'd call it. An anal event.

GRAHAM
ss-sorry?

TONY
It's like a rubbery M&M directly
behind my scrotum.

GRAHAM
Myahhhh.

TONY
I'm a bit strapped for cash so I
can't afford to pay you.

Graham looks like he's about to cry.

GRAHAM
For what?

TONY
Well, you know.

GRAHAM
I really don't.

TONY
I just want to get your opinion on
it, Graham.

He starts to undo his belt.

TONY (CONT'D)
Lighting's not ideal but let's just
make the best of it.

GRAHAM
Ciara? Ciara!

19 INT. DINING ROOM. EVENING

19

Graham, complete with black eye, looks a haunted man, sitting at the dinner table in front of a huge roast chicken dinner.

Carmel is sitting happily, with Tony and Rory and Graham.

CARMEL

Will you slow down. The food's not running off anywhere.

TONY

You sprung this roast on us.
There's a thing on I want to watch.

Ciara enters the room.

CIARA

I thought we were going out for dinner!

GRAHAM

We...we are!

CIARA

What are you eating for?

GRAHAM

I...I don't know.

CIARA

Graham , what happened to your eye?

Tony a forkful of chicken halfway to his mouth, pauses, waiting for the answer.

GRAHAM

Nothing, I eh... walked into a door.

Tony, satisfied, continues eating.

Ciara sits down. She can't believe it.

CARMEL

Are you enjoying that now, Graham?
Is that up your street? Is it ticking your box?

GRAHAM

Ehm...yes.-

CARMEL

Cos this is just the start. I can make roasts. I can make cakes. I can make a savage fruit salad. I can do things for you, Graham. I can blow your mind.

CIARA
(loudly)
It's been very mild recently,
hasn't it, Mam!?

CARMEL
Are you mad? It's been very close.
I know I can make you happy,
Graham. Just give me a chance.

CIARA
Stop talking. Stop talking, Mam.

Tony looks down towards his crotch. We see the dog down there.

TONY
Get down, you... No! I'm not giving
you what you want! I know you want
it, but I'm not giving it to ya!
(light exacerbation)
He wants me to stroke him, but I'm
havin' me dinner!

Graham looks on, wide-eyed.

TONY (CONT'D)
Is there any gravy, Carmel?

RORY
Yeah, ma, chicken's a bit dry.

CARMEL
There's some there beside Graham.

Graham holds up the cup, a look horror on his face.

GRAHAM
You mean... this?

CARMEL
Did you use it all?

GRAHAM
I thought...I thought it was a
drink.

CARMEL
A drink?

GRAHAM
I thought it was a beef drink.

CARMEL
A beef drink? Is there even such a
thing as a beef drink?

GRAHAM

No, I don't know. I've never seen
gravy in a mug before.

CARMEL

But did you like it?

Martin sticks his head in the door.

MARTIN

I'll be off now, Tony.

TONY

To be honest, Martin. I thought you
were already left.

MARTIN

We'll chat tomorrow so.

Martin exits.

RORY

Ciara? Ciara? Ciara?

Rory puts his hand up.

CIARA

What?!

RORY

I wanna ask Graham something, but I
can't remember whether I'm allowed.

CIARA

Just ask him, Rory.

RORY

(Grinning)

Graham, do you like fish?

GRAHAM

Yes.

Rory sticks his tongue - with food on - out at him. He then
realises his mistake.

Ciara storms upstairs.

CIARA

Jesus, Rory.

Ciara storms off

RORY

Seafood! Do you like seafood?!

CUT TO:

20 INT. CIARA'S BEDROOM. EVENING 20

Ciara enters her room and locks the door and sits alone crying.

CUT TO:

21 INT. DINING ROOM. EVENING - CONTINUOUS 21

CARMEL

So Graham, how's work going?

GRAHAM

Em - OK yeah. It's stressful at the moment - very long hours

CARMEL

Oh, you poor thing. Yes, it's not all glamour, is it? Do you have to work late often?

GRAHAM

Mostly, yeah. The night shifts are the worst. I have to deal with a lot of drunks.

CARMEL

Oh god yeah I know how that goes. They go out, get boozed off their boxes, start a rumpus and then straight over to you lot to get fixed up, isn't it?

GRAHAM

Eh, yeah.

CARMEL

Oh God I think you just do such important work, Graham. In fact, I just want to take this opportunity to say 'Thank You'. People don't say that often enough to you guys.

GRAHAM

It is, sort of, important work I suppose. Thank you, Mrs. Walsh. I really appreciate that.

TONY

Ah, the taxi game's exact same. Nothing but drunk eejits walking across the roads at the weekend. To be honest with you, I'm getting a little tired of hitting the brakes.

Carmel looks horrified.

CARMEL

Tony!

TONY

Ah, don't worry, Carmel. If I clip anyone, Graham here can patch them up.

Pause.

Graham seems to be thinking about this.

GRAHAM

Do you think I'm a doctor?

TONY

Wha'?

GRAHAM

Do you think I'm a doctor?

TONY

Yeah! Aren't you?

GRAHAM

I work in a burger restaurant.

TONY

As a doctor?

CUT TO:

22 INT. CIARA'S BEDROOM - PRESENTLY

22

Carmel knocks gently on the door of Ciara's bedroom.

CARMEL

Ciara? Ciara? Are you OK? Can I come in?

Ciara sits on the bed, drying tears.

CIARA

No.

CARMEL

Will you open the door? You can keep the chain on.

Ciara moves to the door and opens it, leaving the chain on. She then sits on the floor. Carmel sits in the hallway.

CIARA

I just wanted it to be perfect, Ma.

Carmel passes Ciara a tissue through the door.

CARMEL
Lookit, nothing's ever perfect,
love.

CIARA
I think Da punched Graham in the
face.

CARMEL
Yeah, and I think he may have
showed him his- Lookit, let's not
re-hash the past. The point is that
boy is still down there. And you
know what, that does not surprise
me because I've been lucky enough
to know you for twenty three years
so I know what I'm talking about;
you are the most wonderful girl in
the world. OK? Any lad with half a
brain would happily sit through a
hundred million billion awkward
uncomfortable occasionally violent
evenings like this evening just to
get to spend some time with you.
OK?

Ciara closes the door. We hear the chain being unlatched.
Ciara opens the door to Carmel who smiles happily

23 INT. FRONT DOOR/ HALLWAY/ SITTING ROOM. EVENING 23

Graham, his black eye coming along nicely, stands at the
door.

Tony and Graham are suddenly finding it difficult to look
each other in the eye.

Carmel steps forward.

CARMEL
That's us Graham, warts and all.

TONY
Carmel.

CARMEL
What?

TONY
Just... shut up about warts. He
doesn't want to be thinking about
any of that stuff.

CARMEL
Oh god, yes, sorry.

Rory pops his head in to the hallway from the sitting room.

RORY
(looking at his watch)
One minute, Da. The Goose is on in
one minute.

TONY
Come on, come on! Leave!

CIARA
Yeah Mum, we'd better go.

CARMEL
I hope you'll come back. But if
you'd both prefer to spend most of
your days together with Graham's
Mum and Dad - well - I - I
understand.

RORY
Thirty seconds.

GRAHAM
Well, actually Mrs. Walsh. My
mother passed away and my Dad lives
in France now with his new wife.

TONY
Terrible sad.

Tony and Rory immediately run into the living room.

GRAHAM
We don't really get on.

Carmel lights up and hugs Graham tightly.

CARMEL
Oh that is absolutely fantastic!
Absolutely marvelous.
(checks)
Go! Have your dinner!

CIARA
I'll see you later, OK?

She ushers the couple away. The front door is closed.

Rory is sat in the sitting room and Tony joins him.

TONY
Here we go, here we go!

Tony points the remote at the television but it does not turn
on.

TONY (CONT'D)
It's not working.

RORY
What's wrong with it?

TONY
I don't know what's wrong with it.

Martin is revealed.

MARTIN
Press source - it will cycle onto
the channels.

TONY
Thanks Martin.

RORY
Cheers, Martin.

MARTIN
I'd better be off.

TONY
See ya.

CUT TO:

24 EXT. ROAD. EVENING

24

Graham and Ciara are walking along a road. Graham still has a bunch of flowers.

Ciara clocks the flowers.

CIARA
Are they for me?

GRAHAM
Oh, yeah. Sorry.

Graham hands Ciara the bunch of flowers.

CIARA
They're beautiful.

Graham and Ciara hold hands and Ciara smiles happily.

THE END.