

BAD SISTERS

EPISODE 1

'THE PRICK'



Written by

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AND

Brett Baer & Dave Finkel

Based upon the Belgian series CLAN
created by Malin-Sarah Gozin



Characters

GRACE WILLIAMS - ANNE-MARIE DUFF
JOHN PAUL WILLIAMS - CLAES BANG
EVA GARVEY - SHARON HORGAN
BIBI GARVEY - SARAH GREENE
NORA GARVEY - YASMINE AKRAM
URSULA FLYNN - EVA BIRTHISTLE
DONAL FLYNN - JONJO O'NEILL
MICHAEL FLYNN - CONOR O'DONNELL
MOLLY FLYNN - KATE HIGGINS
DAVID FLYNN - AIDAN MCCANN
BECKA GARVEY - EVE HEWSON
BLÁNAID WILLIAMS - SAISE QUINN
RUBEN GARVEY - JAKE FARMER
ROGER MULDOON - MICHAEL SMILEY
MATTHEW CLAFFIN - DARYL MCCORMACK
THOMAS CLAFFIN - BRIAN GLEESON
THERESA CLAFFIN - SEÁNA KERSLAKE
FATHER DOYLE - GARY LILBURN
BEN - PETER COONAN
FRANK - TREVOR KANESWARAN
MINNA WILLIAMS - NINA NORÉN
GERALD FISHER - LLOYD HUTCHINSON

WET WOMAN - CUT FROM EDIT
 DORA - CUT FROM EDIT
 TRAVELER MAN - CUT FROM EDIT
 YOUNG EVA - CUT FROM EDIT
 YOUNG GRACE - CUT FROM EDIT
 YOUNG URSULA - CUT FROM EDIT
 YOUNG BIBI - CUT FROM EDIT
 YOUNG BECKA - CUT FROM EDIT

Scenes

EXT. THE FORTY FOOT/ INT. SEA. SANDYCOVE
 INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. KITCHEN
 INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM
 INT. BIBI'S HOUSE. BATHROOM
 INT. URSULA'S HOUSE. BATHROOM
 EXT. EVA'S HOUSE. BACK GARDEN
 INT/EXT. EVA'S HOUSE. CONSERVATORY
 INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. WC
 EXT. GRACE'S HOUSE
 INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM
 EXT. GRACE'S HOUSE
 EXT. GRACE'S HOUSE/ EXT. UPPER CHURCH ROAD
 INT. CHURCH
 EXT. LOWER CHURCH ROAD
 INT. CHURCH
 INT. THOMAS'S FLAT. KITCHEN
 INT. THOMAS'S FLAT. BEDROOM
 INT/EXT. THOMAS'S FLAT. OFFICE. HALLWAY
 INT/EXT. THOMAS'S FLAT/CLAFFIN'S OFFICE FRONT

INT. CHURCH
 INT. EVA'S HOUSE. BATHROOM
 INT. EVA'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM
 INT. EVA'S HOUSE. KITCHEN
 INT. CHURCH
 EXT. ESTUARY ROAD/INT. THOMAS CLAFFIN'S CAR
 INT. WILLIAMS FAMILY CAR/EXT. MINNA'S HOUSE
 INT/EXT. GRACE'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM
 INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. KITCHEN
 INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. BEDROOM
 INT/EXT. BIBI'S HOUSE/OPEN PLAN KITCHEN/SITTING ROOM
 INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. HALLWAY
 INT/EXT. BIBI'S HOUSE
 EXT. THE 40 FOOT / INT. SEA
 EXT. THE 40 FOOT. WATER'S EDGE
 EXT. CEMETERY
 INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM
 EXT. GRACE'S HOUSE/ INT. THOMAS CLAFFIN'S CAR
 INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM
 INT. GLEESONS PUB
 INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM
 INT. GLEESONS PUB
 INT. EVA'S HOUSE. KITCHEN
 INT/EXT. EVA'S HOUSE. PATIO
 EXT. ESTUARY ROAD / INT. THOMAS CLAFFIN'S CAR
 EXT. EVA'S HOUSE. GARDEN
 EXT. THE FORTY FOOT/ INT. SEA. SANDYCOVE.
 INT. THOMAS CLAFFIN'S CAR
 EXT. EVA'S HOUSE. DRIVEWAY

1

EXT. THE FORTY FOOT/ INT. SEA. SANDYCOVE. IRELAND - DAY - 1
PAST DAY 0 - CHRISTMAS DAY - 1998 - 14:45

It's Christmas day, 1998. Crowds of swimmers of all ages and sizes but mainly men walking down to the water's edge or returning cold and wet from their dip. We hear spots of music from transistor radios, christmas songs maybe. A group of wild looking young women and girls, aged between 24 and 9, run down through the crowd, screaming with the cold and laughing. These are Garvey sisters. EVA, the eldest in a black swimsuit, followed by URSULA in a striped bikini and swimming hat, BRIDGET (KNOWN AS BIBI) in a t-shirt and knickers and then GRACE in red and blue speedo swimmers and goggles on her head. At the back is BECKA, aged 5, all wellies and oversized knits. There is a chaos to them. They are tying up the straps on their own and each other's costumes as they run. Bibi attempts to yank Ursula's bikini bottoms. Eva holds her boobs as she runs. Grace, the last of the older girls is carrying the swim bags - the rules of being last. The crowd can't help but look at them, a little fascinated, bit disgusted, maybe curious about where their parents are. The girls shout 'sorry' as they run down the steps. A large wet woman in a towel elbows Grace.

WET WOMAN

Look where you're goin, will ya?

GRACE

Sorry!

EVA

You look where you're sticking your elbows.

WET WOMAN

She nearly knocked me over.

BIBI

Some chance ya fat heifer.

They reach the steps at the water's edge. Bibi throws herself in. Then Ursula runs and flings herself into the water, followed by Grace.

URSULA

Jesus my nipples!

Eva sits Becka down on a raised area of rock.

EVA

You wait here.

She kisses her head and follows her sisters in. Becka stays on the rock and watches her sisters wave to her from the water. Becka waves back and then looks around her.

There are plenty of people milling about by the water's edge, in towels and wet costumes, holding onto themselves, shivering.

Bibi swims out a little further than the others and dives under. She grabs some rank sea weed and throws it. It lands on Grace. She screams.

GRACE

Ugh what's that?

BIBI

It's whale shit ya silly bitch!

Grace pulls it off herself, half laughing, and throws it back at Bibi and it lands on her head.

Back on land Becka is bumped by a large bellied man heading into the water. She doesn't like all these semi-naked, mostly adult male bodies. She looks out at her sisters.

BECKA

Eva..? EVA?

They don't hear her above the sound of the waves and the crowds and their laughter. She walks carefully to the edge of the water to call her sisters again but she slips on the slimy rock surface and falls in. A wave hits her and she gasps and goes under. As Bibi pulls the seaweed off her Eva laughs and turns to look back at Becka. She's not there. She looks around in a panic, but only sees the crowds. A second seems like an hour until she suddenly sees Becka's head bob out of the water and go under again rapidly.

EVA

(screaming)

Becka!

All the sisters turn and look, stricken. Eva goes under the water and swims towards the child. She is followed by her three sisters. We see them all under the water making their way to Becka through the sea of kicking legs. Eva reaches her first and pulls her out of the water with a gasp. She carries her onto the shore. After a panicked beat Becka coughs and splutters and the sisters cocoon her, crying with emotion and relief. Eva is shaking but trying to hold it together. A crowd of swimmers begin to gather, staring.

EVA (CONT'D)

(Shouting, angry)

What are you all staring at? You waiting for her to cough up a pearl?? She's fine!

(to her sisters)

It's okay, she just got a fright.
Look at her she's grand.

She kisses Becka and looks at all her sisters' worried faces.
She holds out her hands.

EVA (CONT'D)
We're fine. Gimme your hands.
(They grab her hands)
We'll be okay, yeah? I've got ya,
I've got ya...

We leave them in their wet huddle, hands together, holding
each other as people in swimming costumes surround them.

We cut to titles;

CLAN

Episode one; The Prick

2

INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. KITCHEN - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 -
JUNE 2022 - 10:30

2

A caption says '25 years later'

We see a photograph of all the Garvey sisters on a kitchen dresser, the same girls who were at the 40 Foot. They are wrapped around each other. Little Becka in the middle of them all.

Grace (now 44), dressed smartly in black, is running cold water from her kitchen tap. She leans her red eyes towards the gushing water, blinking. She straightens up. Sniffs and wipes her eyes and turns off the water. She goes back to her task of cutting onions and adding them to sliced egg on white bread. She cuts the bread into triangles. She adds the triangles to an enormous pyramid of sandwiches and carries them into the sitting room.

CUT TO:

3

INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 -
JUNE 2022 - 10:31

3

A room that looks like it's never been sat in. A bit plush, formal, all velvet curtains and tasselled pelmets. Grace stares out the window and sobs. She blows her nose, loudly.

GRACE

Sorry.

We see she is apologising to a corpse in the coffin that lies on a table underneath the window. The man laid out is her husband, JOHN PAUL WILLIAMS. He's wearing pyjamas and he is dead, clearly. Grace's face changes to confusion and she peers a bit closer into the coffin. He seems to have an erection.

GRACE (CONT'D)

Oh God.

She looks panicked. Not sure what to do. She looks around her and sees a small vase of dried flowers on a side table. Thinks about using those to camouflage the boner. Changes her mind and picks up a small photo of herself and the dead man from their wedding day and places that in his hands that are joined together just above his crotch. But the boner forms a small slide and the photo slips off.

GRACE (CONT'D)

Oh no.

CUT TO:

4

INT. BIBI'S HOUSE. BATHROOM - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 -
JUNE 2022 - 10:35

4

Bibi (34) is in the bath, under the water. We can't make out her features too well but something is off. Her wife NORA is finishing dressing their young son, RUBEN in a little suit outside the open bathroom door. Nora walks over to the bath and crouches down beside it.

NORA

My lady, it's nearly time to go.

Bibi lies under the water a beat longer and then pulls herself out. No longer submerged she turns and looks away. Nora taps her head.

NORA (CONT'D)

What's going on in there?

Bibi turns back and looks at her. We see now that she only has one eye. Not an empty socket but a space where an eye used to be, stitched up and healed over.

BIBI

Think I'm gonna stay in the bath.
You and Ruben go. Make a day of it.

NORA

He was your brother in law, Bibi.
(Hands over her eyepatch)
She's your sister. She needs you.

BIBI

She doesn't. Not anymore.

She sinks back down under the surface of the bath water. Nora looks at her under the water for a beat and then pulls the plug out. We hear the bath gurgle as it begins to drain.

CUT TO:

5

INT. URSULA'S HOUSE. BATHROOM - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 5
2022 - 10:40

We see a shower head raining down in full flow. A jacket is hanging up to let the steam work out the creases. Through the shower water we see Ursula (42) sitting on the side of the bath in her black funeral attire. She is looking at a message on her phone; *'Why aren't you responding to me?'*. She types back *'It's the funeral today x'* then she hears the bathroom door handle rattle. She gets a start and jumps up. There's a knock at the door.

DONAL (O.S.)

Michael won't change out of his GAA shirt.

URSULA

Coming.

She puts her phone in her pocket, grabs her jacket and turns off the shower. As an after thought she flushes the unused toilet. She opens the door. Smiles at DONAL who's there with their three kids, MOLLY, DAVID and MICHAEL. Ursula looks at MICHAEL, her 15 year old son who has Down Syndrome. He is in his GAA shirt and white shorts with black shoes.

URSULA (CONT'D)

Well you've got your smart shoes on, right?

(smiling)

I think you look wonderful. Sporty.

She picks up her bag and keys and starts walking to the front door.

URSULA (CONT'D)

Come on. Let's go.

She walks off. Molly and David follow. Donal stares after her. Then looks back at Michael who's adding a large GAA flag as a cape to complete his look.

DONAL

Michael, no.

CUT TO:

6

EXT. EVA'S HOUSE. BACK GARDEN - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 6
2022 - 10:42

We're looking out at the vast expanse of the ocean. A chirpy Talk Radio station from an old Roberts radio is the background noise alongside the waves and the gulls. *"And now we have Maureen from Balbriggan..."*

Eva (48) casually hoses the odd plant and flower as well as the weeds and nettles that are growing in her slightly dishevelled garden. In her other hand is a glass of red wine that she drains.

Eva turns the hose off, picks up the radio and walks inside to her kitchen.

7

INT./EXT. EVA'S HOUSE. CONSERVATORY - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - 7
JUNE 2022 - 10:43

Eva sets the radio down. We see a photograph of all the sisters, the same photo that was in Grace's kitchen, on the wall behind her. She looks at the photo. She pops a mint in her mouth. Then pops in two nicotine gums. She goes to wash the glass but instead pours one more tiny glass of the wine and drinks, grimacing at the minty wine taste. She then holds onto the side of the sink. Takes a breath. Maureen on the radio continues to yack away.

EVA

Shut the fuck up Maureen.
(she exhales deeply)
Sorry. Sorry Maureen.

She turns on the tap and pours the end of the wine down the plug hole and we see the red liquid wash down with the water.

CUT TO:

8

INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. WC - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 8
10:45

Grace walks into the small downstairs WC. She looks down and sees that there is a dark, un-flushed pee in the toilet. She stares at it. Her lip trembles.

CUT TO:

9

EXT. GRACE'S HOUSE - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 11:18

Eva walks up the drive of Grace's large-ish modern detached house. There's a mid sized motor boat on a trailer parked up next to the two car garage. Eva gives it a glance. Then knocks on the door. BLÁNAID(12), Grace's daughter, opens it. They share a warm hug. Eva pulls apart to look at her, arms still around her waist. She moves her hair from her eyes

EVA

How're ya doing monkey?

BLÁNAID

Mam won't stop crying.

EVA

Well that's to be, you know, but how are you?

BLÁNAID

I don't know. I keep forgetting he's dead. Is that bad?

EVA

No, no not at all. Used to happen to me all the time.

BLÁNAID

I'm gonna tell my friends he died in his sleep.

EVA

Oh. Okay. Well. That's a nice idea.

BLÁNAID

Are you here to see him?

EVA

No. No, I'm here to see your mam. Where is she?

CUT TO:

10

INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. WC - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 10
11:20

Eva walks in to see Grace on the floor, one hand on the bowl.

EVA

Why are you on the floor, honey?
Were you being sick?

GRACE

(pathetically)
He was the only one who used this
toilet. That's his last ever--

She chokes up. Eva glances in the bowl. It's just a piss,
thank god. Eva crouches down beside Grace.

EVA

(wiping Grace's eyes)
Grace? You can't sit here on the
toilet floor, okay? We've to go
soon, tell me what needs doing?

GRACE

It's fine, I'll just, I'll just
check on the sandwiches.

She gets up and walks out. Eva stares at the brown stagnant
piss again. She flushes it down.

CUT TO:

11 INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - 11
JUNE 2022 - 11:22

Grace re-arranges tall plates of sandwiches, home made sausage rolls and drinks on the table and sideboard.

GRACE

No one RSVPs to a funeral, how are you supposed to know how much food to make.

She sees Eva look at John Paul in the coffin and recoils.

GRACE (CONT'D)

I couldn't bear the thought of him being all alone.

EVA

Of course.

GRACE

It took a bit of getting used to but it's been nice having him here, hasn't it, Blánaid?

BLÁNAID

(shrugging)

He looks like he's wearing make up.

EVA

He is wearing make up.

(turns to Grace)

Maybe turn the heating down a bit though, you know, just in case.

Eva sees that there's a folded crocheted flag laid on top of his crotch area.

EVA (CONT'D)

(Pointing at his crotch)

Why have you put a--

Grace raises her eyebrows and motions to Blánaid, shaking her head, not now.

CUT TO:

12

EXT. GRACE'S HOUSE - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 11:50

Eva, Bibi and Ursula stand outside Grace's. We see ROGER come out of his house and look over. Ursula watches him. After a beat he goes back into his house.

BIBI
Did you see him?

Eva nods.

EVA
She has him dressed in pyjamas.

URSULA
Pyjamas? Why?

BIBI
She wants to make eternal damnation
all comfy for him.

EVA
He had a hard on. Last two fingers
up to Grace.

BIBI
The dead prick.

URSULA
Post mortem priapism isn't
uncommon, after a violent death.

They stare at her.

BIBI
Thank you nurse. That will be all.

They watch as the coffin is brought out of the house with
Grace and Blánaid following it.

CUT TO:

13

EXT. GRACE'S HOUSE/ EXT. UPPER CHURCH ROAD - DAY - PRESENT 13
DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 12:02

The funeral procession. The three lead cars follow the hearse. A couple of neighbours line the street as they go by. A small child on a scooter stops and stares. We get a quick glance of Ursula and Bibi and their families through the windows of the two other cars.

Eva, with Grace and Blánaid, looks out the window. Grace squeezes her hand. Eva, guilty for not being present mentally for her, squeezes back.

CUT TO:

14

INT. CHURCH - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 12:32

14

The funeral. The church is fairly well populated. A row of uniformed school kids, friends of Blánaid's in amongst the mourners. John Paul's coffin now lies at the top of the church with a small bunch of flowers, a candle and a framed, flattering black and white photograph of himself. Blánaid, Grace, Eva, Ursula and Bibi are sat in the front aisle, all dressed similarly in smart black. There is one empty seat. Bibi looks at it.

CUT TO:

15 EXT. LOWER CHURCH ROAD - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 15
 12:33

We see a young woman walking along the street. She looks in a bad way. Old jeans and a jumper, no coat. This is BECKA (now 29).

She heads towards the crossing at the traffic lights, in another world. Cars speed past. She stares across to the other side of the street for a second and then walks out. There is a loud honk and a small motorbike tries to brake in time to avoid hitting her. The rider swerves and skids across the road into the other lane and comes off his bike. Becka puts her hand to her mouth, immediately snapping out of it.

 BECKA

 Oh shit!

She runs over and tries to help him up. This is MATTHEW CLAFFIN(30).

 BECKA (CONT'D)

 Sorry. Jesus, I think that was my fault.

He shrugs her off and then pulls his helmet off.

 MATT

 You walked right out in front of me. Did you wanna get hit?

BECKA begins picking up the possessions that have flown out of his bag as he skidded across the road.

 BECKA

 No, I was just, I'm late for a--

 MATT

 My leg is busted--

She picks up a wallet, a charger, a cracked phone.

 BECKA

 These are yours, oh shite, was it cracked before or--

She hands them over. He sort of snatches them off her.

 BECKA (CONT'D)

 I don't know where my head was and, oh, there's another...

She sees something else on the ground and picks them up. Hands over a squashed, half open, foil wrapped parcel.

BECKA (CONT'D)
Is this your sandwich?
(she inspects it)
I think there's some gravel in it.

MATT
(genuinely upset)
Oh what?

He grabs it. Picks up his bike, pulls on his helmet and climbs back on. Starts it up.

BECKA
(calling after him)
Mind yourself.

Matt turns to hear what she said.

What--

He almost comes off the bike again.

Oh shit! BECKA Shit! MATT (CONT'D)

He steadies himself and rides off. Becka watches him go. She mouths 'sorry' under her breath. Then breaks into a run.

CUT TO:

16

INT. CHURCH - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 12:43

16

Becka races into the church and heads to the front aisle with her sisters.

FATHER DOYLE

... we offer our prayers today for his adored wife, Grace and daughter, Blánaid. The beloved son of Minna and George... Lord hear us

CONGREGATION

Lord graciously hear us.

FATHER DOYLE

We remember our brothers and sisters in Christ who are no longer with us today especially Grace Williams parents Bill and Kathleen Garvey. Lord hear us.

CONGREGATION

Lord graciously hear us.

FATHER DOYLE

Let us take a moment now in silent prayer for our own private intentions. Lord hear us.

CONGREGATION

Lord graciously hear us.

Becka squeezes Grace and Blánaid's hands as she passes. Bibi and Ursula give her a look. Eva shakes her head at her. Becka takes her seat. Looks around.

BECKA

Big crowd.

Becka suddenly remembers and takes her jumper off. She has a black t-shirt on underneath.

BIBI

They're here for Grace.

BECKA

Yeah, well I didn't think they were here for Elvis.

CUT TO:

17

INT. THOMAS'S FLAT. KITCHEN - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 -
JUNE 2022 - 12:44

17

An intense looking man in a suit, THOMAS CLAFFIN, is looking through some papers in a pink folder. We get a glimpse of **JOHN PAUL WILLIAMS**'s name and see what looks like an insurance policy. Thomas' brow furrows. He pops a Rennie into his mouth from a blister. There's a loud ping and he gets a start. He holds his heart and exhales.

He gets up and opens the microwave and takes out a cup. He pulls the tea bag out and puts the weak, milky gross tea on a tray with a flower and a saucer of biscuits.

CUT TO:

18

INT. THOMAS'S FLAT. BEDROOM - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 -
JUNE 2022 - 12:45

18

A heavily pregnant woman lies on her side in the bed. The room looks like it's being lived in. Piles of books and magazines on the bedside table, jugs of water, tissues, laptop, moisturisers, Lucozade, phone charging stuff etc. Thomas walks into the room with the tray.

THERESA

You didn't microwave that did you?

THOMAS

No. No, I just.. yeah, I did.

THERESA

You're an animal.

THOMAS

I know. Sorry, in a rush, but yeah.

He puts it on her bedside table.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Need anything else? Will you be alright for a couple of hours?

THERESA

30 days lying on my fat arse, I don't think another couple of hours will kill me. But why are you working on a Saturday anyway?

THOMAS

Just, you know, a new claim, a few issues--

THERESA

What's the matter? You look awful. You're pale and sweaty.

THOMAS

Well. You're really fat.

She laughs.

THERESA

Don't have a heart attack. Please. If anything happens to you just remember I can't even shit without you.

He sits on the bed. Looks at her. Strokes her face.

THOMAS

That's nasty talk.

THERESA

I know.

THOMAS

Don't worry. About anything, okay?
And don't move. Definitely don't
move. Because you'll cause
structural damage to the house.

She hits his arm. She pulls a face.

THERESA

I miss being pretty.

THOMAS

You're still pretty. You're like a
very pretty beach ball.

He jumps up before she can hit him again. The doorbell rings.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

That's Matt.

(off her face)

I know. But I need him on this.
He's family and sometimes--

THERESA

He doesn't know what he's doing *and*
he's a lazy bastard.

THOMAS

Theresa. I'm gonna pull rank here;
shut up.

She laughs. He quickly sifts some magazines. Holds one up.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Have you read this one?

THERESA

Just twice.

THOMAS

Well get stuck back in there.

He hands her the magazine, kisses her head

THERESA

Bring me back a surprise.

THOMAS

Okay. Like what?

THERESA

A puppy? Or chips? Chips!

He smiles at her then legs it.

CUT TO:

19

INT/EXT. THOMAS'S FLAT. OFFICE. HALLWAY - DAY -
PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 12:47

19

Thomas, holding his pink folder, walks into his office which is situated below the family flat. There is a fish tank with a few under fed goldfish swimming around in there. Thomas is pulling a few papers from his pink folder and placing into a desk drawer. There is a bottle of antacid on the desk. The doorbell rings. He jumps. Fuck. He locks his desk, hides the key in a football mug on his desk and opens the office door to MATTHEW, who we recognise from the motorbike incident. Thomas looks at Matthew and his scruffy clothes.

THOMAS

You look like you slept in a kennel. *Did you sleep in a kennel?*

MATT

Last night? No.

He tries to pat him down a bit, fix his hair. Matt shrugs him off.

THOMAS

Well you can't go like that.

MATT

What? Go where?

Thomas motions for him to keep it down, points to the upstairs flat where Theresa is.

MATT (CONT'D)

She's not an Alsatian. She can't hear through two floors of insulation and carpet.

THOMAS

You're wrong there.

(quietly)

You need a smart jacket..

He goes to the coat stand and starts looking through the jackets hanging there.

MATT

What do I need a smart jacket for?

THOMAS

There's a new insurance claim. We need to look into it.

MATT

What new claim?

He takes a paper from the pink folder and hands it to Matt with a jacket and exits out the front door. Matt follows.

CUT TO:

19A

**INT./EXT. THOMAS'S FLAT/CLAFFIN'S OFFICE FRONT - DAY -
PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 12:48**

19A

Matt continues to follow Thomas to his car, reading as he walks

MATT

Jesus, that's enough to retire on.

THOMAS

Yeah, well, we're gonna make sure
that doesn't happen.

Before Matt can question this Thomas unlocks the car and gets in. He drives off.

CUT TO:

20

INT. CHURCH - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 12:52

20

The funeral. A grim looking priest is eulogising.

FATHER DOYLE

...The sudden passing of John Paul Williams has filled us all with shock and dismay. He was one of our first ever foreigners, a Swede no less, and though not of this parish John Paul made himself more a part of this community than most. He was an active member of the church, a devoted family man and amateur humourist...

The camera pans down the aisle to each of the sisters' reactions. They all react in different ways to each of these claims. Eva's eyebrows rising on 'amateur humourist'.

FATHER DOYLE (CONT'D)

God gave John Paul the strength to be an unforgettable human being. Let us give thanks for the joy he spread his whole life long...

Bibi snorts and almost spits but manages to hold in laughter. Ursula stares at her. She pulls it together.

As the priest warbles on Ursula looks to the aisle behind, at her husband Donal. He smiles at her. She smiles back. She then sees a man staring at her, six or so aisles back. This is BEN. She looks panicked and turns away quickly. Donal turns around to see who or what Ursula was looking at. He sees Ben. They look at each other for a brief moment. Nothing changes in Ben's face. It's a little disconcerting. After a beat Donal turns back round.

A beautiful Taize hymn begins. Bibi looks at Becka and sees she is quietly sobbing. Bibi looks puzzled. She leans in.

BIBI

You don't have to pretend anymore.

Becka turns away from her. A tear runs down her face. We pan to the photo of John Paul, grinning.

CUT TO:

21

INT. EVA'S HOUSE. KITCHEN / DINING ROOM - NIGHT -
CHRISTMAS EVE - PAST DAY 1 - DECEMBER 2021 - 18:04

21

We see the back of a man's head. From his perspective we see a bustling, fun, rowdy family table of Garveys. All the sisters (minus Becka), their partners and offspring are here. We then see the man's face; a very much alive JOHN PAUL, definitely not grinning, listening rather than contributing to the chat. They sit around a large family table with the kids all on a smaller table nearby, the older ones, Molly and Blánaid, in charge and instructing the youngsters. Bibi sits at one end of the table. John Paul is in the middle between Grace and Nora. He is fidgeting a bit, uncomfortable.

Ursula is decanting wine while Eva puts down the last few bowls of food, mashed potatoes, spiced beef, cabbage. She then takes her seat at the other end of the table.

JOHN PAUL

There's women's lib for you, look at them; heads of the table, both ends. Plenty of room. All the men hemmed in like tinned fish. No offense Nora.

He laughs to Nora and Donal, they smile back.

EVA

You don't have enough space John Paul?

JOHN PAUL

Don't know how you do it. Big house like this, still manage to make us feel cramped.

(He holds his elbows out)

I have no room for my elbows.

EVA

Well that is a terrible awful terrible shame.

Ursula enters with the last of the wine, puts it on the table and sits down with them.

URSULA

Are we starting without Becka?

JOHN PAUL

We were just talking about why Eva needs a house this size--

BIBI

We weren't.

JOHN PAUL	EVA
Why a spinster wouldn't want to get herself a nice little cottage. You could sell this place give your sisters their rightful share.Spinster..? (laughing) A nice little cottage..?

NORA
Here we go...

GRACE	BIBI
We don't want to sell our parents' house.	Eva brought us up in this house

EVA
Yeah he's heard all this--

URSULA
Why would we sell the house? It's
all we have left of them.

JOHN PAUL
That sentimentality's very
convenient for Eva is all I'm
saying.

John Paul notices Bibi is separating the food on her plate. He smirks but says nothing. We hear the front door open and the sounds of laughing and talking. Becka calls out that she's here. JP takes his wallet from his pocket.

JOHN PAUL (CONT'D)
Quick wager on who she's with. It
was the junkie last Christmas--

EVA
He was a student.

JOHN PAUL
(slams down a fiver)
I say stranded Polish builder.

DONAL
No, you're alright JP.

JOHN PAUL
(more aggressively)
Come on! It's for fun.

Just then the door opens and Becka walks in with her date FRANK, who's Indian. Everyone shouts greetings to Becka.

JOHN PAUL (CONT'D)
I would not have guessed that.

John Paul pockets his money. Becka brings Frank to the table.

BECKA

This is Frank, everyone. Frank,
this is my family. And John Paul.

John Paul gives her a 'very funny' face.

BECKA (CONT'D)

Only joking with you, JP.

FRANK

Happy Christmas.

EVA

Grab a plate there, Frank.

Eva pulls a chair over for him. There's hand shaking and
hellos. John Paul cannot take his eyes off him.

JOHN PAUL

Frank? That's an unusual name for a-

GRACE

Millennial. It's an unusual name
for a millennial.

FRANK

Is it?

GRACE

I think so, yes.

Blánaid comes to the table. John Paul taps his cheek and she
lands a kiss there. Grace smiles at them both. Blánaid picks
up the spuds.

JOHN PAUL

Go easy on those, you'll end up the
size of your cousin.

He nods his head towards Molly. Ursula flashes her eyes at
him.

JOHN PAUL (CONT'D)

What? It's puppy fat. Completely
normal.

Eva wraps her arm around Blánaid's waist.

EVA

You gonna come on the swim with us
tomorrow?

Blánaid looks excitedly at Grace who smiles, and at John Paul
who doesn't.

BLAINAID

Really?

GRACE

Yeah why not, that's a nice idea.

URSULA

Shall we do that? You're old enough now.

FRANK

You swim every christmas?

EVA

Yeah. We used to do it with our parents when we were little. So we kept it up, like a tradition.

BIBI

Did Becka not tell you we're tragic orphans?

Becka shoves Bibi. They all start chatting about it. The cold of the swim, but the buzz you get afterwards. John Paul takes out a bottle of nasal spray and snorts it up his nostril. He's clearly pissed off that he is left out of this chatter. He picks up the gravy boat. Pours it over his food.

JOHN PAUL

Anyone else for any?

Before anyone can answer he pours it all over Bibi's plate.

BIBI

No--

Nora catches JP's arm. Stops him.

NORA

What are you doing?

JOHN PAUL

(putting it down)

Oh. Apologies. Forgot.

Nora swaps her plate with Bibi. She looks at her, grateful.

BIBI

Thank you.

She begins separating this food now. John Paul shakes his head.

JOHN PAUL

God blessed me with the normal one, mammy eh?

He laughs and returns to eating. Eva glances at Bibi who stares back at her. The Prick.

CUT TO:

22

INT. EVA'S HOUSE. BATHROOM - NIGHT - CHRISTMAS EVE -
PAST DAY 1 - DECEMBER 2021 - 19:06

22

JP is coming out of the bathroom as Ursula, phone out, is about to go in. He stops in the doorway.

JOHN PAUL
Need a little privacy?

URSULA
(putting her phone away)
Well I'm about to use the toilet
John Paul so yes.

She tries to get past him but he blocks her way. She looks a bit anxious but then he laughs and heads off. She stares after him.

23

INT. EVA'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM - NIGHT - CHRISTMAS EVE - 23
PAST DAY 1 - DECEMBER 2021 - 20:28

They are in the sitting room for drinks and games. They are all exchanging family gifts. Becka is building Lego with the kids. Lots of hugs and laughter. Eva grabs a large soft package from under the tree. She hands it to Grace.

EVA

Last one. This is from all of us.

Grace squeezes it.

GRACE

Is it a dog bed?

BIBI

Don't ever lower those standards,
Gracie.

Grace gives Bibi a friendly shove and pulls out the gift.
It's a kind of robe.

EVA

It's a dry robe. For after the
swim.

GRACE

Awh. Like yours? I love it.

She goes round hugging them all. John Paul looks at Donal

JOHN PAUL

'Robes' instead of towels.
(shakes his head)
Never seen so much hysteria about a
bloody swim. Used to be called
going for a dip now it's 'cold
water swimming' and 'mental
health'. Please.

BIBI

I know, it's hard for you to
understand JP what with you still
needing arm-bands.
(to Frank)
Poor thing can't swim.

JOHN PAUL

(ignoring her, he stands)
I think there might be one more
gift under the Christmas tree?

He pulls out a wrapped box.

JOHN PAUL (CONT'D)
Someone must have been very good
this year...
(holds it out for Grace)
It's for you my love.

GRACE
(surprised)
Oh. I didn't bring... I thought we
were doing our presents tomorrow?

He does a little shrug and a charming smile. She takes it and begins to pull off the wrapping.

JOHN PAUL
Look at her face.

She opens it. It's a gold chain necklace with an emerald.
Flashy. Definitely expensive.

BECKA
Oh wow.

JOHN PAUL
Lucky old mammy, eh?

Grace smiles at JP. She shows it to the sisters.

GRACE
It's beautiful, isn't it?

EVA
It is yeah.

Grace goes to kiss him. He swerves it.

JOHN PAUL
Save that for home, Mammy.

Eva watches as Grace looks embarrassed. Becka clinks a glass.

BECKA
Okay. So, after all that excitement
I've some news.

The sisters bang a table and make a fuss. 'Let's hear it!'

BECKA (CONT'D)
I just put in an offer on a studio
in town and I'm going to be opening
my own massage business in the New
Year.

Bibi and Ursula clap. Shout 'well done'. Michael starts administering hugs all round.

EVA

That's great. How're you gonna pay
for the lease?

BECKA

I'll just raise the money.

EVA

We only just put the deposit down
on your flat. And two months rent--

BECKA

Jesus lousie-us, my life's about to
start, finally. Where's the
support?

FRANK

I support you.

BECKA

Awh. I just met you last night.

He shrugs. And they kiss. JP raises his tea cup. Michael
tries to hug him. JP not interested, pats his back.

JOHN PAUL

To launching a new venture in a
depression with no money.

GRACE

We're delighted for you. Anything
we can do, just say.

EVA

Come here.

(pulls Becka in for a hug)

Mam and dad would be proud. So am
I.

Becka hugs her back. Then Eva clinks a glass herself.

EVA (CONT'D)

Okay, as we're making
announcements, I have some news too--

JOHN PAUL

You're pregnant?

The room goes quiet, everyone uncomfortable.

BIBI

What the fuck kind of thing is that
to say?

Eva stares at John Paul. He holds her look before breaking
and laughing it off.

URSULA

Go on Eva.

After a beat Eva recovers.

EVA

Gerald, my boss--

JOHN PAUL

And mine.

EVA

And John Paul's of course,
mentioned to me that he's looking
for a new Financial Director. And
I've decided, after a lot of
thought, to go for the promotion.

More clapping and cheering. Michael tries to hug JP again.

URSULA

That's great, honey. You should.
You've earned it.

JP is rattled but remains silent. He glances at Eva and sees she is staring right back at him. She then gives him a big smile. Michael now attempts a head-lock hug. Rattled JP tries to push him off.

JOHN PAUL

Mind my head--
(to Ursula)
Will you *control* your child?

DONAL

Control your temper, JP.

Ursula puts her arm around Michael. John Paul looks at his watch. Turns to Grace.

JOHN PAUL

It's time we were heading home. Get
your stuff together.

CUT TO:

24

INT. EVA'S HOUSE. KITCHEN - NIGHT - CHRISTMAS EVE -
PAST DAY 1 - DECEMBER 2021 - 20:46

24

Grace is washing up and Eva is drying. Becka and Ursula try and talk to Grace.

BECKA

...it's not even 9 o'clock.

EVA

We're not telling you what to do--

GRACE

Well you are.

EVA

We just want you to say what you want, the odd time, stand up for yourself. It's Christmas Eve, we hardly get to see you anymore--

Bibi comes in with some more plates from the table.

BIBI

What kind of a prick asks a woman who can't have children if she's pregnant?

GRACE

It was a joke, it--

URSULA

Oh my god...

BECKA

Jesus.

BIBI

It was a fucking *joke*?

GRACE

It came out wrong, he didn't--

EVA

When are you going to wake up?

GRACE

(cracking, upset)

When are you going to *STOP*?

The sisters are a bit taken aback.

GRACE (CONT'D)

Sorry. Sorry.

JOHN PAUL (O.S.)
Mammy! Come on. Lets go!

GRACE
(calling off)
Coming!
(back to her sisters)
He's not easy, I know that. And you
might not think he's a good man but
he's a good husband and he's a good
father. And I'm happy. Can you not
just let me be happy?

She kisses them as she leaves

GRACE (CONT'D)
I'll see you tomorrow at the 40
Foot for the swim. That'll be nice,
right?

She heads out. Eva holds out the kitchen knife she is drying.

EVA
I swear to God if he calls her
'mammy' one more time--

JOHN PAUL (O.S.)
Where's my coat Mammy?

A beat as the sisters all look at Eva and she mimes
committing Hara Kari on herself.

CUT TO:

25

INT. CHURCH - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 13:02

25

Back to Eva at the funeral, staring at John Paul's coffin.

FATHER DOYLE

And now a few words from John
Paul's good friend, Roger Muldoon.

We cut to ROGER, a haunted looking man who sits on his own in the middle aisle, sweating. He has a piece of paper, now screwed up, in his hand. He opens it and we can see there are the scribblings of a speech. He goes to get up. Then he notices a few people are staring at him. A few whisper. Grace turns round to look but he can't meet her eye. He bottles it and stays sat. Father Doyle looks confused.

FATHER DOYLE (CONT'D)

Okay well that's, that's that
for... that. Let us all please
stand for our final hymn, Song of
Farewell.

They all stand. An organ begins playing. A choir member begins his/her solo, singing a completely different song to the one being playing on the organ. No one knows which one to sing along to in the congregation. Becka suppresses a laugh. The other sisters cringe as Grace and Blánaid hold each other.

EVA

(to herself)
Please God let it end.

26

EXT. ESTUARY ROAD/INT. THOMAS CLAFFIN'S CAR - DAY - PRESENT 6
DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 13:03

Thomas and Matthew are driving down a country road. Matt in the passenger seat, wearing a sports jacket two sizes too small for him. He fidgets, uncomfortable.

MATT

Why did I have to wear a smart jacket anyway?

THOMAS

We're going to Williams' funeral.

MATT

What? No way. You can drop me at the pub, I'm not doing that.

THOMAS

They've made *four* claims in the last year. *One* year. Something isn't adding up and we're not paying out if it's not all above board.

MATT

What are we gonna do about it? They're not claiming for a cracked windscreen. He's fucking dead. It's only void for suicide or, what do you call it, malicious intent--

THOMAS

Then we *find* malicious intent.

MATT

Under what circumstances?

Thomas reaches into the back seat, one eye still on the road, and tries to grab a folder.

MATT (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

THOMAS

I'm grabbing the folder.

MATT

Do you want someone who isn't driving to grab it?

THOMAS

Yes.

Matt leans back and takes the folder.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
Go to the police report.

MATT
So the police are investigating it?

THOMAS
Well...no, nothing suspicious was
found, but look at the photo.

Matt pulls the photo out. We don't see it but Matt's eyes
widen.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
Strange way to meet your end.

He grabs the folder back, throws it on the back seat.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
The family will have their guard
down today. All we need to do is
observe and listen...
(looks at Matt intently)
Who knows if there's foul play
here, but if there is, the culprit
usually shows up at the funeral.

MATT
Alright Columbo.

Matt rolls his eyes. But Thomas stares ahead, determined.

CUT TO:

27

**INT. WILLIAMS FAMILY CAR/EXT. MINNA'S HOUSE - DAY -
CHRISTMAS DAY - PAST DAY 2 - DECEMBER 2021 - 11:30**

27

JP, Grace and Blánaid pull into the driveway of Minna's house, JP's mother. It's a beautiful 60s style house. Grace looks in the back and smiles, squeezes Blánaid's knee. Blánaid is playing Lizzo on her iPhone in the back.

GRACE

Do you want to run in and get your Morfa?

But JP just honks three times. He then looks to Grace.

JOHN PAUL

Did you get everything peeled this morning?

GRACE

Yeah.

JOHN PAUL

Then the afternoon is clear for you.

(big smile)

I like to see you relax on Christmas day.

He strokes her face. She leans into his hand.

Minna, an elderly, grey haired woman, a little wild looking and gorgeous, comes out smiling and waving. She carries a handbag and a small bag of gifts. John paul lets out a long sigh.

JOHN PAUL (CONT'D)

(almost to himself)

Give me strength. It's no wonder my father got the hell out.

GRACE

(so Blánaid can't hear)

Come on. It's just one day.

She opens the car door. They all say hello/ hi/ happy Christmas/Glædelig jul etc. Then Minna climbs in and gives Blánaid a squeeze. We see the following exchange as subtitles as she puts on her seatbelt.

JOHN PAUL

Har pappa hørt av sig?/Have you heard from dad?

She looks a bit confused/upset.

MINNA
Inte an./Not yet

JP makes a sad face in the mirror to her. Then takes the handbrake off and drives off. Blánaid smiles at Minna and she snaps out of her sadness.

MINNA (CONT'D)
You excited for presents?

BLÁNAID
Yeah. And I'm excited for the swim.
What time is it Mam?

GRACE
We'll go before dinner.

(The following dialogue can be on the back of the car as it drives off)

JOHN PAUL
Will you turn that noise off
Blánaid, it's disturbing your
Farmor.

MINNA
Oh no I like it.

JOHN PAUL
I said turn it off.

MINNA
Ooh. So grumpy chops.

Minna winks at Blánaid, who laughs.

Minna stares out the window, delighted at the houses with the lights and decorations in the windows.

28

INT./EXT. GRACE'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM - DAY - CHRISTMAS DAY 8-
PAST DAY 2 - DECEMBER 2021 - 14:12

Turkey in the oven, Christmas tree lights flash, carol service on the TV. Minna is now sitting in a chair by the fire, half pissed. Oscar the dog with tinsel around his collar. They are exchanging gifts. JP has a new tie around his neck. Blánaid is putting together a new sticker printer.

JOHN PAUL

You like it? Is that the one you wanted?

BLÁNAID

I mean it's not but...it is now..?

She hugs him and he kisses her cheek and gives her a tight hug back. He looks at Grace. They smile at each other. Then he stops smiling.

JOHN PAUL

Where's your necklace?

GRACE

Oh. It's a little tight. I was going to have an extra, you know, get an extra link added.

JP shakes his head.

GRACE (CONT'D)

What?

JOHN PAUL

There's always something.

Grace looks rattled.

MINNA

Before I forget like an old lady
with an old mind...
(rifling in her bag)
for you, John Paul.

She hands over her present to JP. JP takes it and opens it up. It's a taxidermy stoat. He stops, stares at it. Something about it troubling him. He snaps out of it.

JOHN PAUL

Is this a joke?

MINNA

No I don't think so.

JOHN PAUL
Slut nu. That's it now. Sista.
That's the last one.

There's a jaunty knock on the door. JP recognizes it as Roger's signature knock.

JOHN PAUL (CONT'D)
On Christmas day? The brass neck on him.

Blánaid runs ahead and opens the door. It is ROGER. He is holding a box.

ROGER
Happy Christmas. Is your daddy in?
Sure where else would he be on
Christmas day, says you.

Grace and JP arrive at the door. JP's face is not welcoming. Grace gives him a warm smile.

GRACE
Happy Christmas Roger.

ROGER
Happy Christmas to you Grace.
(hugs her)
Happy Christmas John Paul.

Goes to hug him but JP steps back.

JOHN PAUL
Happy Christmas Roger.

ROGER
Box of oysters. For your starter.
Are you doing a starter? If you're
already set for a starter they can
just be a little amuse bouche.

John Paul laughs. Roger looks self conscious

GRACE
That's really thoughtful of you.

JOHN PAUL
It is. It is. How long've they've
been sitting out?

ROGER
No time. My sister was all set to
join me for lunch - big fan of an
oyster - but she'd a nasty fall
leaving the pub and so that's off
the cards now. I don't eat them
myself.

GRACE

Oh no, so are you on your own or--

JOHN PAUL

(to Grace)

No. That's not, no.

(He takes the box)

Very thoughtful. Happy Christmas.

ROGER

Are you going to be taking the boat
out over the break--

JOHN PAUL

No. Bye now.

He shuts the door.

CUT TO:

29

INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. KITCHEN - DAY - CHRISTMAS DAY -
PAST DAY 2 - DECEMBER 2021 - 15:02

29

JP is shucking oysters. He cuts his finger on the knife.

JOHN PAUL

Shit.

(shouts)

Mammy?

MINNA (O.S.)

Yes?

JOHN PAUL

(shouting)

Not you.

Blánaid walks in.

JOHN PAUL (CONT'D)

Where's your mother?

BLÁNAID (O.S.)

She's upstairs changing for the swim.

JP looks angered by this. He sees a bottle of champagne on the side. He then looks at his cut finger and sucks the blood.

CUT TO:

30

INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. BEDROOM - DAY - CHRISTMAS DAY -
PAST DAY 2 - DECEMBER 2021 - 15:08

30

Grace is buttoning her blouse over her swimsuit. JP opens the door wearing a Christmas hat carrying a large glass of champagne & a small plate of oysters. He walks over, singing.

JOHN PAUL

...And as I look around/Your eyes
outshine the town, they do/ this
Christmas..

Grace laughs. He gives her a kiss and hands over an oyster.

JOHN PAUL (CONT'D)

Just a bit of vinegar and shallot
on there. No Tabasco. Won't make
that mistake again.

GRACE

Oh...That's lovely.

She necks the oyster. He passes her the glass of champagne.

JOHN PAUL

Happy Christmas mammy.

GRACE

Happy Christmas, love.
(drinks)
Delicious. Thank you.

Grace is genuinely touched at this gesture.

JOHN PAUL

You deserve it. Drink up.

She does.

CUT TO:

31 INT./EXT. BIBI'S HOUSE/OPEN PLAN KITCHEN/SITTING ROOM - DAY-1
CHRISTMAS DAY - PAST DAY 2 - DECEMBER 2021 - 15:12

Bibi gathers up provisions in a big bag; towels, a large flask of hot toddy. Ursula packs a Tupperware of mince pies.

 URSULA
Have you blankets?

 BIBI
Yeah. Can you put them in the car
Becks?

 BECKA
Yep.

 BIBI
Grab the hot water bottles too.

 BECKA
Can you stop ordering me around,
I'm not your wife.

 NORA
 (calling)
Ha!

 EVA
 (Holding up hot toddy)
Do you think one flask is enough?

 BIBI
No, I don't.

She pulls out a flagon of Johnny Walker(or whoever sponsors us) from her bag. Eva high fives her.

CUT TO:

32

INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. HALLWAY - DAY - CHRISTMAS DAY - PAST DAY
2 - DECEMBER 2021 - 15:15

Grace comes downstairs, carrying a bag of towels. John Paul walks into the hall from the kitchen, eating a mince pie.

GRACE
(to John Paul)
Take the bird out at quarter past,
it'll need to sit for an hour
anyway. Be perfect by the time
we're home. Come on Blánaid.

She smiles and grabs the car keys from the sideboard.

JOHN PAUL
What are you doing?

GRACE
We're going to the 40 Foot. We'll
be back as quick as we can.

JOHN PAUL
(shaking his head)
You just had a glass of champagne.
You can't drive.

GRACE
I'm grand, really.

JOHN PAUL
You can't drive. You'd a large
glass of...are you kidding me?

GRACE
No, I'm not, I'm completely--

JOHN PAUL
There'll be guards on every
corner...
(shakes his head)
Come on now, *think*.

Grace looks at Blánaid in her coat, with her swimming bag.

GRACE
(to John Paul)
Well can you drive us then--

JOHN PAUL
No. I cannot, I'd a glass myself.

GRACE
I haven't missed a swim since we
were little, I'll be fine--

She goes to open the front door. He goes after her and slams the door shut while her hand is still on the lock.

JOHN PAUL

Why would you make a scene on
Christmas day?

(face close to hers)

I'm not having Blánaid in a rough
sea with her mother drunk. No,
absolutely not.

Grace stares at him, nursing her reddened hand a little. John Paul shakes his head. He goes to Blánaid and kisses her on the head.

JOHN PAUL (CONT'D)

Sorry sweetheart. I just worry too
much.

He goes into the sitting-room, swaps channels and starts watching TV. Grace looks at Blánaid but Blánaid looks away.

CUT TO:

33

INT./EXT. BIBI'S HOUSE - DAY - CHRISTMAS DAY - PAST DAY 2 -33
DECEMBER 2021 - 15:17

The sisters are giggling and chatting, heading out the door when Eva gets a text alert. She looks at her phone and reads. Shows it to Bibi.

BIBI
(reading out)
Sorry, we're not going to make it.
My fault. Too much to drink. Have
fun xx

BECKA
What the fuck..?

URSULA
The Prick.

EVA
No way. That is not happening.

She grabs the phone and calls Grace. But the call is ended; Not Available. A single text pings back; **'I can't. Sorry. X'**

BIBI
Looks like it is.

CUT TO:

34 **SCENE OMITTED**

34

35 **SCENE OMITTED**

35

36

EXT. THE 40 FOOT / INT. SEA - CHRISTMAS DAY - PAST DAY 2 - 36
DECEMBER 2021 - 15:35

Becka dives under and stays under for a beat too long. We hear her name called. She comes up for air and looks at Eva who is grim faced, treading water with Bibi and Ursula

EVA

Don't do that.

They all feel Grace's absence. There's not much joy. Eva puts a smile on.

EVA (CONT'D)

Come on, race you back.

A happy mood returns somewhat and they thrash to the shore, laughing and grabbing each others' feet to get ahead.

CUT TO:

37

EXT. THE 40 FOOT. WATER'S EDGE - DAY - CHRISTMAS DAY - PAST
DAY 2 - DECEMBER 2021 - 15:40

The sisters sit on the raised stone area, wrapped in towels and blankets, drinking hot whiskey from the flask. They're quite drunk and are being given a few strong looks by some of those gathered to swim. One wasp faced woman stares over.

BIBI

See anything you like?

She lifts her patch.

EVA

Don't.

BIBI

It's your fault. They've never seen a single woman over 40 before.

Eva gives her a shove.

BECKA

It's not that, they've just never seen nipples as gigantic as yours.

Bibi slaps Becka's arse and she yelps. This is followed by a silence that drags on.

BIBI

Well that's it then, just the four of us now.

URSULA

It would break mam and dad's hearts.

BIBI

Good job they're dust.

BECKA

Why would you say that anyway? It's just one Christmas.

EVA

No.

(shaking her head)

Don't minimise it. We're losing her. She's not the girl she was. She's getting quieter, smaller.

URSULA

You can't grow in the shadow of the Prick.

BECKA

She was always quiet.

BIBI

That's *bollocks*.

BECKA

What's *bollocks* about it?

EVA

It's just not true, Becka. She wasn't always like that. He's sucked the life out of her.

URSULA

She won't stand up to him. You say anything and she thinks you're jealous.

EVA

She doesn't though, she's just, she knows that's not why we're... that's just him getting to her.

Bibi takes out the flagon of whiskey and the Tupperware.

URSULA

We just have to wait until he dies of cancer or something.

EVA

The best part of her life'll be over by then.

URSULA

I dunno. He's got gout, he's got that ulcer. With a lucky wind he could fuck off in the next ten.

BIBI

Could happen before then. People get killed every day.

EVA

What do you mean?

Bibi takes a drink from the flagon and passes it to Becka.

BIBI

I mean why not give nature a helping hand? All our worries would be over.

Eva stares at her for a serious beat and then laughs it off.

BIBI (CONT'D)

I've often thought about punching
through that soft spot in his head,
right through to his brain.

EVA

Jesus Christ Bibi.

URSULA

I'd feed him to the Hurley's pigs.

BECKA

Bury him piece by piece in their
mushroom beds. More shit to grow
out of.

They look at Eva. She says nothing. Then;

EVA

Fine! I'd tamper with the brakes of
his shitty volvo if I knew what
fuck I was doing!

They all cheer and laugh and the flask and flagon get passed
around quicker as they drunkenly fantasise over John Paul
death scenarios...

38

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 13:35

38

The four sisters stand in a line by the freshly dug grave. They look over at Grace and Blánaid opposite them, crying and holding each other. The sisters' faces cloud over.

Ursula stares over at Grace in her pain. Becka stares over at something else in the cemetery, lost in thought. Bibi's face is set. Eva stares at the coffin as it's lowered into the ground. Becka turns and looks at Eva, wide eyed. Eva takes her hand.

EVA

Everything bad that could have
happened has happened.

The coffin ropes snap and the coffin creaks and falls on it's side with a crash. Ursula winces.

Eva keeps her eyes locked on Becka. Gives her a reassuring tiny smile.

EVA (CONT'D)

It's over.

CUT TO:

39

INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 -
JUNE 2022 - 14:34

39

Eva stands on her own at the funeral afters.

MOURNER (O.S.)

Sorry for your loss.

EVA

It is such a loss. I'm just glad
the suffering is over.

MOURNER

Oh, was he ill?

EVA

No.

Bibi and Ursula are with Donal and Nora and the kids. Becka sits a little way off on her own. People are lined up to shake Grace's hand, to give condolences. GERALD FISHER, JP and Eva's boss, approaches Grace.

GERALD

Deepest Condolences.

GRACE

Thank you, Gerald.

GERALD

Shocking. Grisly way to go.

Grace looks uncomfortable. We then see that poor Blánaid is beside her. Gerald shakes Blánaid's hand.

GERALD (CONT'D)

Gerald Fisher. Your daddy's boss.
Ex-boss.

Blánaid isn't sure how to respond.

GERALD (CONT'D)

And anything I can do please, I'm
only a phone call away.

GRACE

I don't have your numb--

But he's already gone. As he walks off he catches Eva's eye. He looks uncomfortable. She holds his eye until he looks away. She walks over to the drinks table. There's just tea and soft drinks. Bibi and Becka join.

BECKA

Are you joking me? There's no
booze? If you're not serving booze
at an afters, why have an afters?

Ursula joins them.

URSULA

It's to honour John Paul's
sobriety.

BIBI

Public pioneer private piss head.
(pouring a tea)
No wonder Father Doyle skipped out.

Becka sees the taxidermy stoat from Minna on the sideboard.
She struggles for a minute as she looks at it. She grabs her
bag and a scarf from a chair, wraps it round her.

BIBI (CONT'D)

That's my scarf.

BECKA

I know.

EVA

Where you going?

BECKA

(walking off)
I'm gonna get a proper drink.

EVA

Are you okay? Becka...?

BIBI

I want that scarf back Becka.

Eva looks at Bibi.

BIBI (CONT'D)

(What?)
She always keeps my shit.

Becka leaves through the kitchen back door. Eva looks
worried. Ursula's phone beeps. She looks a bit panicked and
steps aside to read her message. She sees Donal look over and
smile. He mouths 'you okay?'. She nods and smiles back then
mouths 'back in a minute'. She heads to the downstairs WC.

CUT TO:

40

EXT. GRACE'S HOUSE/ INT. THOMAS CLAFFIN'S CAR - DAY -
PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 14:35

40

Thomas and Matthew pull up the drive.

MATT

Hang on a second, this is their
house.

THOMAS

Yeah. Well her house now.

They get out of the car and walk past John Paul's motor boat
out the front of the house. Thomas runs his finger along it.
Does a little whistle.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Very nice. On an accountant's
salary too.

MATT

This doesn't feel right.

THOMAS

(re the jacket)
That's because your body is so
weird and long.

MATT

Going into someone's private home
doesn't feel right, you berk. I
didn't sign up for this.

THOMAS

Look, we're gonna drop in, pay our
respects, sound out the widow and
then you can go back to practicing
chords or painting your toenails or
whatever the fuck you do in your
hovel.

CUT TO:

41 INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - 41
JUNE 2022 - 14:36

Eva stands with Bibi. They watch Roger hover by himself.

BIBI
Thought he'd be in hiding.

EVA
Nothing was proven. I think he's
harmless, God love him.

As the Claffins walk in unnoticed, Roger walks over to Grace.
Holds out his hand.

ROGER
I'm sorry for your troubles and for
not being able to...

GRACE
(shaking his hand)
It's fine and thank you, Roger.

Roger stares at her. And then Blánaid.

ROGER
I wanted to say goodbye.

GRACE
Are you going already?

ROGER
Yes, but I wanted to say goodbye.
Properly.

GRACE
Oh, are you leaving town, or..?

ROGER
No.

GRACE
Okay.

ROGER
Goodbye.

GRACE
Bye Roger.

Roger looks at her sadly and walks to the door. He stops,
then turns and comes back. He goes to speak but can't find
the words. Then;

ROGER
Goodbye Grace.

GRACE
(very confused)
Goodbye..?

He walks off again. People look over at him as he goes, whispering.

Thomas and Matt are now in the throng, past Eva and Bibi standing by the taxidermy which is now on show. Bibi looks at the stoat.

BIBI
(to Eva)
Do you think Grace ever considered stuffing John Paul?

Thomas raises his eyebrow at this but keeps walking.

THOMAS
Which one do you think is the widow... hard to tell..

MATT
We shouldn't be here.

Thomas sees Ursula leave the WC, red eyed.

THOMAS
That's her.

He approaches Ursula, holding out his hand.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
I'm so sorry for your troubles Mrs. Williams. Thomas Claffin. Claffin and Sons. This is Matthew Claffin. We're the holders of John Paul's life insurance policy.

Ursula looks anxiously from Thomas to Matt. She pulls herself together.

URSULA
Mrs. Williams's my sister.

She points over at Grace.

THOMAS
Apologies. My mistake. The likeness...

URSULA
I hope you're not here to discuss business? She's been through a lot.

She walks away and sits down with Eva and Bibi. Thomas looks to Matthew, who is staring at him.

THOMAS

What?

MATT

Someone *died*. Seriously, have some respect. Do you think dad would have gatecrashed a funeral?

THOMAS

He wouldn't have let his business go bust, I know that.

MATT

Well he wouldn't have done this.

THOMAS

How would you know what he would have done?

Matt stares at him, shakes his head and then turns to go.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Matt... Sorry...*Matt?* *MATT?*

But Matt is already out the door. Thomas is on his own. Fuck. He is about to head over to Grace but she is approached by someone.

Ursula is with Bibi and Eva now, talking intensely. Eva looks over at Thomas. Thomas sees her looking and heads over.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Condolences. Thomas Claffin.

Eva stares at him, a bit thrown.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Are you related to the deceased?

EVA

He was our brother in law.

THOMAS

Ah yes. I can see the similarities. I'm sorry for your loss.

BIBI

(under her breath)

Yeah, we're really going to miss that prick.

Eva kicks Bibi under the table. She gives Thomas her best sad face.

EVA

If you wouldn't mind, leaving us alone, with our grief.

Thomas stares at her and then notices that Grace is now free.

THOMAS

Of course. Excuse me.

He leaves, glancing back at the sisters as he goes, suspicious. Eva turns to Bibi, angry.

EVA

Can you just engage your brain,
before you speak? Please.

BIBI

Why? He's not police, he's just an
insurance twat.

URSULA

(worried)

Yeah, but what's he doing here?

CUT TO:

42

SCENE OMITTED (MERGED WITH 41)

42

43

INT. GLEESONS PUB - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 14:48³

Becka is sitting at the bar, nursing a gin and tonic, away from the lunchtime drinking crowd. She is staring into space, lost in thought. Matt enters and approaches the bar. He leans over to look for a bartender. Becka looks at him.

BECKA

She's in the back changing the barrel. And hopefully her attitude. The rude bitch.

He laughs and turns to her. Then is immediately pissed off when he recognises Becka.

MATT

You.

She half recognises him too.

BECKA

Yeah, it's me alright... How do I know you? Did we, I mean have we ever..?

MATT

You nearly kill a man in the morning but it's foggy to you by lunch?

BECKA

Oh. *Shit*. Sandwich boy.
(covers her mouth)
Oh God, I'm sorry. How was your sandwich?

He shakes his head, almost laughs. Can't believe it.

BECKA (CONT'D)

Seriously, how's your leg?

MATT

It's mainly my lower back.

BECKA

If you're laying the groundwork for a court case, good luck. Juries love me.

He laughs.

BECKA (CONT'D)

Nice tight jacket.

MATT

Oh, it's my brother's, he--

He tries to take it off but it is very tight and he gives up.
The rude barmaid is back. She stares at them.

BECKA
(to Matt)
Can I buy you a drink?

MATT
No, thank you, I can buy my own.

BECKA
Okay... Well then can you get me
one? I'm skint.

He smiles despite himself. This brat of a woman.

MATT
What're you drinking?

BECKA
(draining her drink)
Gin and tonic please, double and
slim.

She hands her empty glass to the barmaid.

BECKA (CONT'D)
Save you washing up.

She then smiles and holds out her hand to Matt.

BECKA (CONT'D)
Becka.

MATT
Matt.

They shake.

44

INT. GRACE'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 -
JUNE 2022 - 14:49

44

Thomas is hovering around Grace. He moves in as another mourner moves off. He holds out his hand.

THOMAS

My condolences Mrs. Williams.
Thomas Claffin, Claffin and Sons,
we're handling John Paul's life
insurance policy.

GRACE

(shaking his hand)
Insurance..? I haven't even looked
at the policy documents yet.
Money's the last thing on my mind--

THOMAS

Of course. Of course. Well,
thankfully I'm just here to help.

He sees a tray of sandwiches.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

May I?

He takes a sandwich, bites into it.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Egg and onion. It's like you knew I
was coming. Did you?

GRACE

I, no. What..?

THOMAS

You've had some awful luck
recently. And now this, the icing
on a terrible, shocking cake. Must
have been such a shock, John Paul's
accident.

GRACE

Well, of course it was--

THOMAS

From any dealings I had with him he
never came off as a reckless man--

GRACE

Sorry, is there a problem or..?

THOMAS

No. No, no, no. No.

(pops the rest of the sandwich in and chews)

Not really. Just a couple of questions. Before we pay out we just have to go over a few details with you...

We see Eva and Bibi looking over, watching the conversation intently, wondering what the hell is going on. Thomas notices.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Can I pop by tomorrow, would that be convenient? Day after? You say.

GRACE

Well, yes, but I'd need to--

THOMAS

You've a lot on your mind, apologies, I'll just give you a call, how about that? Keep it casual.

She nods. He turns to leave, then.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Actually, just one quick question Mrs. Williams, if you don't mind, while I'm here; where were you, the night your husband died? I know where John Paul was but where were you?

Grace looks at him. A beat.

GRACE

I was with my sisters.

THOMAS

Ah right. Of course. Think I just met all of them. Lively bunch. Well let me get out of your hair, this was purely a courtesy visit to a valued client at a difficult time. Which I've taken up enough of, I'm sure... I'm just gonna...

He takes two more sandwiches.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Long ride home... Have you a paper plate?

(off her look)

Don't worry. I'll take a napkin.

He grabs a napkin, places a sympathy hand on her shoulder and moves off. She stares after him. Eva watches her.

CUT TO:

45

INT. GLEESONS PUB - DAY - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 14:51

Becka and Matt are still together at the bar, drinking.

BECKA

...You don't live around here
though, pretty sure I'd have
spotted you.

MATT

Well I was living in London.

BECKA

The big shmoke.

MATT

Yeah. Only got back about... a year
ago? Shit, it was a year ago.

BECKA

Time flies. What do you do for
yourself?

MATT

I've worked for my brother, my half
brother, the last, well since I got
back but it's not my, you know, end
goal. I play bass, bass guitar. I'd
a band, that's why I was in London,
but we broke up; Exile in Babylon.

BECKA

(laughing)

Exile in *what*..?

MATT

Exile in Babylon... what are you
laughing at?

BECKA

Nothing, just imagining all the
black and white moody photos in
front of Notting Hill bong shops.

She strikes a pose. He looks offended but then laughs, there
were clearly many black and white moody shots.

BECKA (CONT'D)

Why'd your band break up? Apart
from the terrible name?

MATT

Brexit?

She laughs.

BECKA

For what it's worth bassists are my favourite of all the rhythm section. Although I've dated more drummers in fairness. But that's just bad luck.

(raises her glass)

But I'm always lucky in my bad luck.

MATT

Is that right?

BECKA

No.

(Her mood drops a bit)

Not really... Not anymore anyway.

MATT

What do you do yourself?

BECKA

Massage therapist. I've my own business. Just small but...

(She knocks back her drink)

I've to go. So listen why don't I give you a freebie? Make up for nearly killing you.

MATT

No that's okay, that's-

BECKA

I'm good. I'm actually really good at what I do. Come here..

She picks up his cracked phone.

BECKA (CONT'D)

Should get this fixed.

(puts her digits in)

There you go. Now we're connected.

She grins at him then leaves without looking back. Matt watches her go, charmed but wary. He then looks down at her number on his phone. Suddenly an awful picture of Thomas appears on screen along with an equally awful ringtone. He turns it off.

MATT

(to the barmaid)

Can I get the same again.

CUT TO:

46

SCENE OMITTED (MOVED TO 49A)

46

47

OMITTEDMERGED WITH SCENE 46 WHICH IS NOW 49A

47

48

INT. EVA'S HOUSE. KITCHEN - EVENING - PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 19:25 48

Eva has made herself dinner for one. She turns the radio on for company and sits down. She drinks from a tumbler glass. A flustered Grace walks through the back door. Eva jumps out of her skin.

EVA
(holding her heart)
Jesus Christ Grace.

GRACE
Sorry. Sorry--

EVA
I live on *my own*. People don't walk into my house uninvited unless they're planning to do something bad to me.

GRACE
Sorry. I should have knocked.
(sees Eva's meal for one)
Meals for one. That's what's ahead of me too.

EVA
It's more fun than it looks... It's not.

Grace half smiles and sits down.

GRACE
I did a stupid thing.

EVA
What?

GRACE
That insurance detective was asking me a load of questions earlier.

EVA
He's not a *detective* Grace. He's just an insurance dick. A creep.

GRACE
He asked me where I was when John Paul died. I told him I was with you. I said I was with my sisters.

Eva stares at Grace. What the hell?

GRACE (CONT'D)

I don't know why I said it, I panicked I think, he just, he was making me feel really uncomfortable and I got worried... I mean does it mean I'm a suspect? Am I a *suspect*?

EVA

Wait, hang on, what? Suspect for *what*? It was an *accident*. There's no enquiry.

GRACE

Yeah but I was on my own, I have nobody to confirm I was just waiting for him to come home--

EVA

They're insurance men Grace. They don't want to pay out, come on.

GRACE

Okay. Alright... but what if it jeopardises the claim? Because I can't afford to--

EVA

We'll back you up. So don't worry. And, you know, it's sort of true, we were all meeting up that day anyway.. It's fine. It will be *fine*. Don't worry.

Grace nods. She picks up Eva's drink.

GRACE

My mouth's so dry, can I..?

EVA

No--

She drinks and then immediately spits it out. She wipes her mouth.

GRACE

Sorry, I wasn't expecting--

EVA

It's just a bit of Prosecco.
(off her look)
With a little vodka.
(then)
I'm stopping tomorrow.

CUT TO:

49

INT./EXT. EVA'S HOUSE. PATIO - EVENING - PRESENT DAY 1 -
JUNE 2022 - 19:46

49

Eva is on her phone, pacing. Grace's car is driving off in the background.

EVA
(into the phone)
We've a problem.

CUT TO:

49A EXT. ESTUARY ROAD / INT. THOMAS CLAFFIN'S CAR - EVENING - 49A
PRESENT DAY 1 - JUNE 2022 - 19:47

The Claffin brothers drive along in silence. Both are quietly furious with the other.

THOMAS
You smell like a pub toilet.

MATTHEW CLAFFIN
Thought it was a kennel.

THOMAS
Well it's both now so
congratulations.

Matt is looking at Becka's number on his phone, icing his brother out.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
What's your problem?

MATT
That was mortifying earlier.

THOMAS
Ah grow up Matt.

MATT
Don't talk to me like that!

THOMAS	MATT (CONT'D)
That family claimed fourYeah you said.
times--	It's not unusual to--

THOMAS (CONT'D)
Williams' death was bizarre, to say the least. And I'll tell you what, there was a weird vibe off those sisters. We need to interview that widow *properly* and then we need to get her sisters to corroborate her alibi--

MATT
Alibi? I don't know what kind of CSI bullshit is going on in your fat head but I'm not doing this. You say I didn't know dad as well as you - I know he wasn't in the business of accosting widows--

THOMAS
Well thankfully the dead don't get to have opinions!

MATT

I'm out Thomas! I'm not getting involved.

THOMAS

FINE! We'll let them just waltz off with close to a million Euro, no questions asked.

Thomas, red in the face with panic and anger, opens the glove box to look for something as he talks.

MATT

What are you looking for--

THOMAS

My pills--

He slams the glove box shut.

MATT

What pills? Why are you taking-

He opens the central console compartment and pulls out a box. Presses a pill out of the packet.

THOMAS

You have no idea how bad this is.

MATT

Well then tell me--

But Thomas just chucks the pills in his mouth and grabs a can of Coke out of the cup holder. He tries to swig but it's empty. He chucks the can in the back seat and chokes down the pills, dry, straining his neck like a turkey to get them down.

THOMAS

(barely a whisper)
They're stuck in my, I can't..
swallow the--

MATT

Jesus christ pull over.

Thomas pulls over. Swallows. Breathes. They sit in the car. Silence. Then;

MATT (CONT'D)

I think you need a bit of time off.

Thomas puts his head in his hands. A beat.

THOMAS

We're this close to bankruptcy.

MATT

What? How? Dad never--

THOMAS

Dad's accounting wasn't one of his greatest talents okay? He was the fucking master of taking the bank manager for a curry and a cocktail, less of a hotshot at cashflow. If we've to pay out on this one, the business is finished. I'm telling you that right now, we lose everything.

He takes a breath, shakily. He looks like he might cry

THOMAS (CONT'D)

My wife is bedridden, my first kid is weeks away, if she even gets that far, it's.. I can't lose dad's business too, I can't lose the business--

MATT

That's not gonna happen because we're not going to let that happen okay? Listen to me; if you think there's something there to find, well, then we'll find it.

Thomas calms down. He nods.

THOMAS

Okay... Okay. Thanks.

CUT TO:

50

EXT. EVA'S HOUSE. GARDEN - NIGHT - PRESENT DAY 1 -
JUNE 2022 - 22:05

50

Eva, Ursula Bibi and Becka are gathered together in Eva's garden. They sit on the logs and upturned buckets around a fire pit, drinking Eva's whiskey.

URSULA

Jesus...

BIBI

He's dead. He's in the *ground*. He's Satan's problem now.

URSULA

...She said she was *with* us?

EVA

She's just shone a light on everything we did. So it's our problem.

BECKA

The Prick is dead and we've got our sister back. And that's all that matters.

EVA

We can't let them bring the police into this.

URSULA

(flipping out)

I've three kids, I can't go to prison!

EVA

Will you *calm down*? No one is going to prison!

BIBI

Oh my God, you look so much like Mam right now.

EVA

Fuck's sake, Bibi.

(deep breath)

We just all have to be on the same page. And we keep Grace out of this, okay? The last thing we need is her finding out what we did.

They all nod.

EVA (CONT'D)

We stay calm. And we look out for
each other.

(holding out her hands)

Gimme your hands.

URSULA

No.

BIBI

We're not doing this now

EVA

Come on!

Becka puts her hand in Eva's. A beat. Then Bibi and Ursula
follow suit. They all look at each other.

50A EXT. THE FORTY FOOT/ INT. SEA. SANDYCOVE. IRELAND - DAY - 50A
CHRISTMAS DAY - PAST DAY 0 - DECEMBER 1998 - 14:45

We get a quick flash of them as young girls at the 40 Foot,
huddled together, post Becka's fall, holding hands.

EVA

We'll always look out for each
other. Right?

They all nod.

BECKA

Always.

50B INT. THOMAS CLAFFIN'S CAR - DAY - PRESENT DAY 2 - JULY 2020B-
09:53

The next day. Matthew and Thomas are driving in silence. They arrive at a junction. Thomas indicates left.

MATT

I thought we were going to see the widow?

THOMAS

We are. We're just going to have a word with her sisters first.

Matt stares at Thomas as he drives along.

CUT TO:

50C EXT. EVA'S HOUSE. DRIVEWAY - DAY - PRESENT DAY 2 - JULY 2022 -
10:02

Thomas is getting out of the car. Matt follows. They walk up to the house.

MATT

They've every right not to talk to us at all, you know that right? We're not Garda.

THOMAS

Absolutely. They shouldn't talk to us.

Thomas rings the bell.

MATT

What? Then why are we--

THOMAS

And if they don't want to answer our questions we'll leave them alone, admit defeat, pay out. But, if they invite us in, we'll know they've got something to hide and then we'll haul each one of them over hot coals until we get to the truth.

The door opens. Thomas pins on a smile. A calm and collected Eva stands before them.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Sorry to bother. Thomas Claffin. Claffin and Sons.

EVA

Yeah I remember you.
(She stares. Then smiles.)
Come in.

Thomas looks round at Matt. Raises his eyebrows. Here we go. Eva holds the door and they walk into the house. She looks out for a beat. Deep breath. Follows them in.

End of episode one