

HOT FLUSH

Episode 1

Written by

Molly McGuinness

A hungover Peggy (27) is impatiently sitting in the waiting room. She's in a vest and shorts whilst everyone else is in coats and hoodies. She picks up a 'How to stop smoking' pamphlet and fans herself with it.

The pamphlet flops around.

A little girl is playing with a pile of old magazines.

PEGGY

Excuse me, Hi. Could you pass us over a magazine please?

The girl looks through the magazines.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

Any will do.

She passes her a Nuts magazine from the early noughties.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

No. Not that one.

The little girl stares at the front cover.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

Pass us Gardeners World. The one with the gardens - yeah, That's the one.

Peggy fans herself with the magazine.

SUE, a middle aged receptionist, is reading Best Magazine and obnoxiously chewing gum.

Peggy downs a bottle of coke. Her hands are shaking.

A loud buzzing sound comes from the desk.

Coke falls out of Peggy's mouth and down her shirt.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

Uhh.

SUE

Peggy?

Peggy is wiping away the coke from her shirt.

SUE (CONT'D)

Peggy?

Sue looks around the room.

PEGGY

Yeah, that's me.

Sue looks confused.

SUE
Your name is Peggy?

PEGGY
Yes.

Sue laughs.

SUE
Room three.

CUT TO:

2

INT. DOCTORS OFFICE. DAY.

2

Peggy sits down. Her fringe is wet from sweat. She places a large Reebok travel bag on the floor.

DOCTOR ALAN is a sixty-year-old man dressed like a kid's TV presenter from the eighties. He's wearing a tie that says 'Man's time of the month' with underpants on it.

DOCTOR ALAN
Aiiight.

PEGGY
Pardon?

DOCTOR ALAN
So we've got the results of the test and it isn't anything too bad.

PEGGY
Good.

DOCTOR ALAN
What you have is premature ovarian failure.

A beat.

PEGGY
What? What's that?

DOCTOR ALAN
Premature Menopause. Your ovaries...

The doctor does a circular motion with his hands around his lower stomach.

DOCTOR ALAN (CONT'D)
...have stopped working normally and are currently producing a lot less hormones.

PEGGY

Wait - what? Menopause? That's for old people. What?

DOCTOR ALAN

Not always.

Peggy leans on the sports bag and something starts vibrating.

DOCTOR ALAN (CONT'D)

This is why you're having heavy and irregular *periods*. This is also why you are struggling to produce...

The doctor looks at the bag.

DOCTOR ALAN (CONT'D)

Vaginal discharge.

Peggy tries to ignore the vibration.

DOCTOR ALAN (CONT'D)

I think your phone is ringing?

PEGGY

They can leave a message.

It's still vibrating.

DOCTOR ALAN

Could you turn it off?

PEGGY

Ok.

Peggy looks at the bag then kicks it. The vibration speeds up.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

Ok fine. It's not my phone...

A beat.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

It's a sex toy.

She opens the bag more to reveal some brightly coloured sex toys.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

It's not mine. They're just for work.

The doctor raises his eyebrow.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

Not that kinda work. I'm not using them. Someone else does.

DOCTOR ALAN

Ok.

PEGGY

Like I sell them to other people.

DOCTOR ALAN

I see.

PEGGY

Carry on.

DOCTOR ALAN

Your ovaries have also stopped producing eggs which means you wouldn't be able to get pregnant. Was pregnancy something you had ever considered?

He looks at the bag.

PEGGY

I don't know. I don't think so.

DOCTOR ALAN

No. It's not for everyone.

Doctor Alan smiles and starts typing into his computer.

Peggy is biting her nails.

DOCTOR ALAN (CONT'D)

I'm going to put you on Progesterone for the time being.

Doctor Alan takes out a sheet from the paper and hands it to Peggy. It's a pamphlet with information on a menopause support group.

DOCTOR ALAN (CONT'D)

Maybe it would be worth attending a support group, where you can meet other like minded ladies.

PEGGY

Isn't this for old ladies?

DOCTOR ALAN

I'm sure it will be great fun. Sue at the front desk has been going for two years.

CUT TO:

3 INT. WAITING ROOM. MOMENTS LATER. 3

Peggy awkwardly stares at Sue as she flips through the magazine. She notices a photo of Sue and her two teenage daughters on her desk.

Sue looks up in concern.

SUE
You alright?

PEGGY
Uh. Yeah thanks.

CUT TO:

4 INT. CAR. MOMENTS LATER. 4

Peggy is sitting in the passengers seat clutching the prescription and pamphlet. She absently stares out of the window. Sweat rolls down her forehead.

CUT TO:

TITLE CARD: HOT FLUSH

CUT TO:

5 INT. PEGGY'S APARTMENT. SALFORD. NIGHT. 5

PEGGY is sprawled on the couch watching The X Factor. She is wearing a baggy 'Godfather Kebab House' T-Shirt that has a bean juice stain down the front.

She squeezes toothpaste on her finger and blots it on a big spot on her chin.

On the other end of the couch is DANNY (27.) He scrolls through Instagram and stops at a picture of a hot blonde woman in a bikini. He likes the picture.

On the TV, a young boy singing Nessun Dorma. The judges and audience cry.

Peggy cries.

PEGGY
Oh my God. I can't deal.

Danny likes another bikini model picture.

Peggy nudges Danny with her foot.

PEGGY (CONT'D)
Danny, look. He's only fourteen.

Danny hears her crying and looks over.

DANNY
You're crying because he's
fourteen?

PEGGY
And he's from Rochdale. You
wouldn't think that.

DANNY
Why not? He's just singing.

PEGGY
Who have you ever met from Rochdale
that can sing like that? Only posh
kids can sing like that.

Danny sticks his dirty bare feet on Peggy's lap.

PEGGY (CONT'D)
If you were on The X Factor, what
song would you sing?

DANNY
Don't look back in anger.

PEGGY
Wow you're original. I'd like to
think I could do Janis Joplin's
Piece of my heart but I think an
Anastacia song would really show
off my vocals.

A beat.

PEGGY (CONT'D)
(sings in a bad Anastacia
voice.)
*All my life I've been waiting for
you to bring a fairy tale my way.
Been living...*

Danny shushes her.

She looks over at his phone and see's him like a picture of a
hot woman.

PEGGY (CONT'D)
Who's that?

Danny quickly scrolls down.

DANNY
Joe Rogan?

PEGGY

No. The one you were just gawping at. Go up!

DANNY

Which one?

PEGGY

Go on.

Danny reluctantly scrolls.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

Her. Lavender Rose.

DANNY

Her? That's no one, just someone from work.

Peggy pushes his feet off her lap.

PEGGY

Why are you liking a picture of a girl from work with her nips out?

DANNY

Don't start this, Peg. I thought you were meant to be a feminist?

PEGGY

I am a feminist! I just don't see why you had to like it.

DANNY

It's empowering.

PEGGY

Bullshit. If I posted a picture with my knockers out you would be fuming.

DANNY

It would be too intense if you did it because your boobs are too big.

DANNY (CONT'D)

It's a compliment.

Peggy is sweating. She pushes the fluffy quilt off her and sighs. She has wet patches under her arms.

Danny pulls Peggy in by her arm.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Why are you so sweaty?

Peggy panics.

PEGGY
I think I'm coming down with
something.

She takes off her shirt revealing her off white bra.

DANNY
Maybe we should free these nipples?

PEGGY
Ew.

Peggy fans herself with a magazine. Danny grabs the boob
closest to him.

PEGGY (CONT'D)
I'm not in the mood, Danny. I feel
like shit.

She pushes his hand away.

DANNY
You always feel shit.

Danny picks up his phone again.

PEGGY
Right fine, fine. Go on then.

Peggy puts Danny's hand back on her boob.

Danny kisses her. Peggy pulls off his top. She sinks into the
couch. Danny gets on top of her. She tries to take off his
jeans but they are stuck at the knee area.

They fumble around until they are finally comfortable.

Peggy yells in pain.

DANNY
What?

She grimaces.

PEGGY
Nothing. Just try again.

Danny leans into her.

Peggy shuts her eyes and bites her lip in pain.

PEGGY (CONT'D)
Ow, fuck.

DANNY
Should I leave it?

PEGGY

No! Go on.

A beat.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

Ai yai yai!

Danny pulls back.

DANNY

Are you...

PEGGY

Just put the bloody thing in!
Jesus!

Peggy yells in pain.

Danny leans back up.

DANNY

Right. I'm stopping.

PEGGY

Why?

DANNY

Because this is weird. You're
obviously in pain.

PEGGY

I just need some lube or something.
I think I have some vaseline
somewhere.

Danny puts on his pants.

She leans over and rummages through her hand bag. She pulls
out a cherry vaseline.

DANNY

It's clearly me, isn't it?

PEGGY

No of course not. Why are you being
mard? I'm just struggling to get in
the mood.

DANNY

You're clearly not attracted to me
anymore.

PEGGY

Oh, give over. Of course I am.
Look at that rockin' bod right
there. Phwoar.

DANNY
Stop taking the piss. It's just
getting embarrassing now.

PEGGY
It's just the anti depressants. I'm
not you. I promise.

A beat.

PEGGY (CONT'D)
I love you.

They look at each other. He smiles.

DANNY
Love you.

PEGGY
I can give you a hand job if you
want?

Peggy's hand is moving up and down in Danny's pants. He
closes his eyes and lowers his head back.

Peggy's hand erratically moves up and down in Danny's pants.
Sweat drips down her face. He grimaces.

DANNY
Don't mash it!

Peggy rolls her eyes and slows down her pace. She watches the
TV.

CUT TO:

6 INT. PEGGY'S APARTMENT. LATER. 6

Danny lets out a euphoric sigh. He's finished.

DANNY
Bloody hell, you've still got it.

Danny and Peggy high five.

Danny lies his head back and smiles.

DANNY (CONT'D)
Oh. I'm gonna be doing a little
side project thing tomorrow with
Lavender so I'm gonna be home late.

PEGGY
Are you really gonna bring that up
whilst your still covered in your
own cum?

DANNY

I just don't want to forget and I know you'll be annoyed if I don't tell you.

PEGGY

What kind of side project? Free the nipple?

DANNY

Funny.

Danny pulls his pants back up.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Pass us that.

Danny points to the kitchen roll on the table.

PEGGY

Why can't I be your model? What's Lavender Rose got that I haven't?

Peggy reaches for the roll but holds onto it.

DANNY

Twenty thousand followers and you can't model.

PEGGY

Why can't I? Am I not pretty enough?

DANNY

Of course you are. It's just she's more a classic conventional beauty and you're more a Dido pretty.

PEGGY

Dido? As in White Flag, Eminem Dido?

DANNY

Yeah.

PEGGY

I look fuck all like Dido.

DANNY

I know but you're a similar type of attractive.

PEGGY

What's that?

DANNY

She's like hot but obtainable.

PEGGY
 What the fuck is that supposed to mean?

DANNY
 It's a compliment. You're down to earth.

Danny reaches for the kitchen roll in Peggy's hand.

DANNY (CONT'D)
 Will you pass us that?

Peggy throws the kitchen roll at the television.

DANNY (CONT'D)
 Why are you going sick now?

Peggy storms off with her middle finger in the air.

CUT TO:

7 INT. ANN SUMMERS. MANCHESTER. DAY. 7

STACEY (mid-thirties, bleach blonde and wearing a sovereign ring) is serving a woman in the sex toy section.

STACEY
 Because I like you, I'll do you a sneaky discount and let you have the cock and ball ring for free.

Peggy, looking deflated and depressed, tucks into her Gregg's steak-bake as she walks into the store. She is wearing the vest stained with coke. Her cheeks covered in crumbs.

CUSTOMER
 I don't really think I...

STACEY
 (To Peggy)
 Oh, look who it is!

PEGGY
 (mouthful)
 Hiya.

STACEY
 Where've you been?

Stacey takes the boxed dildo from the customer and places the cock and ball ring on top.

PEGGY
 Greggs.

STACEY

What you playing at? Your shift started an hour ago.

PEGGY

It said twelve on the rota.

Peggy wipes off the crumbs off her shirt.

The customer is impatient.

STACEY

I wrote them and it says eleven. I've been trying to ring you.

PEGGY

Sorry, I was in the doctors anyway.

STACEY

What's wrong with you?

PEGGY

Nothing. Just a check up.

STACEY

Right go make yourself presentable and get on the floor as quick as you can. You look like you've been dragged through a hedge.

Peggy paces into the back room.

STACEY (CONT'D)

(To customer)

Now, I've popped some cleaning wipes on there for you because we don't want you getting an infection, do we?

CUT TO:

8

INT. ANN SUMMERS. FRONT OF SHOP. A FEW MOMENTS LATER.

8

Peggy is hanging up a PVC bodysuit. She is now wearing all black.

STACEY

Are you ready for the day?

PEGGY

Yeah.

STACEY

Come on. Give me some more energy than that!

PEGGY
(aggressively)
YEAH.

Several confused customers look over at Peggy.

STACEY
I've been up to my eyeballs in work
this morning so I really need you
to push those ickle add-on's today,
alright?

Stacey picks up five bullets from the till and sticks them
into Peggy's apron.

PEGGY
Ok.

STACEY
So I need you to demo this to every
customer who walks through that
door, okay?

Stacey turns on a test bullet.

STACEY (CONT'D)
Roxanne has already sold eight this
morning so let's see if you can
beat her. The winner gets a little
surprise!

A beat.

And if you don't win you'll be
getting a disciplinary because your
sales have been very concerning
lately.

Stacey sticks the open bullet in Peggy's hand and winks.

STACEY (CONT'D)
Instead of just telling them, let
them feel it. Put it on the back of
their neck.

Stacey massages Peggy's neck with the bullet.

STACEY (CONT'D)
Don't let them be able to say no.
Go get 'em, tiger!

Peggy watches a mother and teenage daughter browse through
the swimwear section. Stacey points over to the customers.
Peggy reluctantly walks over.

PEGGY
Hiya, how are you getting on?

CUSTOMER MUM
We're fine, thanks.

PEGGY
No worries.

A beat.

Peggy pulls out the tester bullet from her apron and turns it on.

PEGGY (CONT'D)
Have you felt this?

Peggy places the bullet on the back of the mothers neck. She jumps.

CUSTOMER MUM
What's that?

PEGGY
It's our best selling clit
stimulator and it's half price with
any purchase today.

The daughter raises her eyebrow.

CUSTOMER MUM
No, thanks.

PEGGY
If you put your hand out.

CUSTOMER MUM
I'm not interested.

The mum pulls back towards the exit.

PEGGY
You don't have to use it in a
sexual way. You can use it on the
ball of your feet. I can show you
if you want.

Peggy takes off her shoe.

CUSTOMER MUM
Are you sick in the head?

The mother drags her daughter out of the shop.

Peggy puts her shoe back on.

Three lads walk past the shop. One gets pushed into the shop and falls into a mannequins.

LITTLE LAD
Is my mam in here?

Peggy's putting on her shoe. She doesn't look up

PEGGY
Get out.

LITTLE LAD
Your feet reek.

Peggy looks up.

PEGGY
Excuse me...

The boys giggle. One sneaks in behind him. The third one, JOSH, is older.

JOSH
Nah, let's go.

LANKY LAD
She wants him to buy her a big giant dildo, have you got any?

PEGGY
Josh?

JOSH
Hi Peggy.

PEGGY
You still not had a shag yet?

The other two laugh.

LANKY LAD
Nah, he's shagging some proper milf, aren't ya Josh?

Lanky lad elbows him.

PEGGY
Why are you knocking about with teenagers?

JOSH
He's my cousin.

LANKY LAD
Yeah and your best mate.

JOSH
Yeah and my best mate.

STACEY
Right, get out and come back when your balls have dropped. Out now.

The boys scour away.

STACEY (CONT'D)

Peggy, you can't let these kids walk all over you. Assert the floor.

Roxanne is with an older female customer in the sex toy circle.

ROXANNE

I know what your thinking, two-hundred-pound is a little pricey for a sex toy but this isn't a regular a4 battery rampant rabbit, this is a one of a kind, state of the art waterproof clitoral stimulator and g spot massager with built in bluetooth and wifi so you can connect and play in real time with your sexy toy boy in Egypt.

The woman turns it on and giggles.

ROXANNE (CONT'D)

And if you don't fancy that one day, you can simply connect it to one of the thirty-three porn videos online and the shaft will move exactly with the video.

OLD LADY

Oh, well I do hope it's got that Manuel Ferrara on there, he is a treat.

ROXANNE

I'm sure they do!

OLD LADY

I'll take it.

Peggy sighs. She spots a middle-aged fancy-looking lady awkwardly walking towards the toys.

PEGGY

Hi, are you ok there? Can I interest you in our half price bullet today?

Peggy puts it on the back of her hand.

FANCY LADY

(quietly)

Oh no, thank you.

The woman quickly moves away her hand and shoves it into her pocket.

FANCY LADY (CONT'D)

Umm... I've actually been recommended to come in by my doctor to get some... kegal beads. Is that what they're called?

PEGGY

Kegal balls? That's a funny doctor.

FANCY LADY

Well, she said they can help with the menopause.

Peggy freezes and begins to become hot again.

Peggy picks up the kegal balls.

PEGGY

Here you go.

FANCY LADY

And some... lubricant please.

Peggy picks up some lubricant.

A beat.

PEGGY

Can I just ask?

FANCY LADY

Yeah?

Peggy clocks Stacey watching her.

PEGGY

Could just go to the till and I'll leave your items there.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

Stacey, do you mind popping these through?

STACEY

Ooh, someones going to have a good night tonight, eh?

Stacey obnoxiously giggles.

PEGGY

Oh, it's not for her. It's for a friend.

STACEY

Oh. A 'friend.'

Stacey winks.

STACEY (CONT'D)

Well I'm sure she's going to have a good night, am I right? Our toys are buy one get one half price at the moment. Does your 'friend' fancy a cock ring or douche?

Peggy is looking in the fitting room mirror. She notices several hairs on her chin and tries to pull them with her fingers but she struggles to get a grip.

She wipes her forehead with a tissue.

ROXANNE comes in to pick up the lingerie left in the rooms.

PEGGY

Can you put the air con on?

ROXANNE

It's on. You look like shit, Peg. Have you eaten that mysterious meat from Gabbot's farm again?

PEGGY

No. I just feel horrible and ugly and gross.

ROXANNE

Babe, I've been there. I was on a comedown last Tuesday

Roxanne poses in the mirror and pulls her shirt down to show a leather strappy bra.

ROXANNE (CONT'D)

Isn't it fit?

PEGGY

Isn't that uncomfortable?

ROXANNE

No, it's actually well comfy. I've got the knickers on too.

PEGGY

What kind of virgin wears crotchless knickers?

ROXANNE

It's not about sex. I do it for myself. It's good for your self esteem. You should try it.

A beat.

ROXANNE (CONT'D)

You're...

Roxanne points to Peggy's armpits.

She has sweat patches.

PATRICK, a small man in his late forties wearing milk bottle glasses, a coca-cola cap and no teeth walks over.

ROXANNE (CONT'D)
(under her breath)
Fuck sake.

PATRICK
Here's my girls!

ROXANNE
(sarcastic)
Hi Patrick.

A beat.

ROXANNE (CONT'D)
I'm gonna do delivery.

PEGGY
Wait can you...

Roxanne is gone.

PATRICK
I need to get Miranda a set.

PEGGY
Miranda? Have you got another one on the go?

PATRICK
She's my new one. I need to send it over to her. She lives in America, this one. I don't know what size she is but I have a picture.

Patrick pulls out an old blackberry phone.

PEGGY
Well I can't really tell from a photo.

PATRICK
I'd say her tits are your size but she's not as heavy.

PATRICK (CONT'D)
Here she is.

Patrick holds up the phone. It's a shutter-stock glamour shot of a very attractive woman in a bikini.

PEGGY

She is something else.

Roxanne is stocking the dildos when her phone starts ringing. She looks around. Stacey is busy with a customer. She answers the phone.

ROXANNE

(on the phone)

Hello.

A beat.

Your in Costa? What now?

A beat.

I'm just on my break. In the back... I'll be... No don't ask, they're busy. I'll be out in a minute.

Roxanne hangs up.

ROXANNE (CONT'D)

I need to go. My mum's at the coffee shop.

PEGGY

Shit. Now?

Roxanne hands the stacked box of dildos to Peggy. Roxanne runs in the back and comes back out with a barista apron on.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

Badge!

Patrick is sitting on a chair by the changing rooms eating an egg mayo sandwich.

Roxanne realizes she's still got her 'sexpert' badge on and takes it off. She throws it to Peggy who tries to catch it whilst balancing the boxes but it falls to the floor.

PATRICK

She sends me pictures all the time. Sexy pictures, cute pictures, it doesn't matter. She wants to move in with me but she doesn't know I live with my mam.

PEGGY

What about your other girlfriends?

PATRICK

Well, she can like it or lump it.

Patrick drops the egg mayo sandwich on the floor. He picks it back up and takes a bite. He wipes his fingers on a silk Cami next to him. Peggy is too busy to notice.

PATRICK (CONT'D)

Oh. I brought this in for you.

Patrick opens up his bag and pulls out a large M&M alarm clock and places it on the till.

PATRICK (CONT'D)

Remember when I told you I collected M&M alarm clocks? This is one of them.

Peggy stands on her tiptoes to try and reach top shelf. She is extremely hot and begins to feel dizzy. She briefly turns around to look at the alarm clock.

She throws the three dildo boxes up on the shelf as she holds onto the side.

The shelving breaks and all the dildos fall to the ground and make a huge crashing sound. Two of them knock her in the face.

STACEY

What the bloody hell is going on here?

PEGGY

Sorry I didn't mean to.

Peggy starts to cry.

Patrick is standing behind the till.

STACEY

Excuse me, what are you doing behind there? I've told you to not come into my store again. Get out.

Patrick sulks and mumbles something as he leaves.

STACEY (CONT'D)

Have you been letting him in here?

Stacey notices Peggy crying.

STACEY (CONT'D)

Oh no.

PEGGY

I swear I can't do anything right.

STACEY

There's something not right with you lately. You're all over the place. You don't know what day of the week it is and you look rough as a bear's arse. You know you can talk to me, don't you?

PEGGY

I know. I'm just feeling a bit all over the place at the moment.

STACEY

You know you girls mean the world to me. We're a little family here. I've got my real family at home and then I've got my girls.

PEGGY

I know.

STACEY

When Becky's fella cheated on her with Jackie from the Trafford store, what did I do? I gave Becky two ciggie breaks and I reported Jackie for buying bras for her mates on staff discount.

PEGGY

Yeah.

STACEY

Tell me, what's going on? I've noticed you're out drinking on those Instagram stories.

PEGGY

Not really, just the normal amount. I think I just need a bit of fresh air and I'll be fine.

STACEY

Yeah, I know what you mean. Smells worse than CeX in here.

She pulls a face at a goth looking at the bondage.

STACEY (CONT'D)

I'll tell you what, you go and do the banking. That'll give you a bit of fresh air. Why don't you grab us all some doughnuts whilst you're out? That'd be nice.

CUT TO:

9

INT. THE CASTLE PUB. NORTHERN QUARTER. NIGHT.

9

The pub is filled with people. PULP - DISCO 2000 is playing on the jukebox. Peggy is sitting on her own. She is looking at premature menopause on her phone.

FI, (mid-twenties, well dressed) walks over with two pints.

Peggy quickly locks her phone.

FI
The perfect cure.

They clunk their pint glasses together.

PEGGY
So do you think it's weird?

FI
I reckon it's pretty normal, Peg. Remember Mickey, the Irish one who had a phobia of hair? Well, he used to find sex painful. He went to the doctor about it. He had to get circumcised.

PEGGY
That's helpful. Do you and Rich not have issues like this?

FI
Rich never says no to sex. We're really lucky that we both have incredibly high sex drives.

PEGGY
How often do you do it?

FI
Probably three times a day at least.

PEGGY
For three years you've had sex three times a day? How do you even have time?

FI
We'd do it more if we didn't have so much shit to do.

PEGGY
He said he thinks I've let myself go.

FI
Do you think you have?

PEGGY
No. Do you?

FI
No, of course not. I think that's just your style.

PEGGY

What do you mean?

FI

It's just a bit more of a grungy, chilled out look.

PEGGY

I know I haven't been putting the effort in but even when I used to, he never actually made me feel good about myself. The sex was never passionate, it's like two slabs of meat slapping each other. He doesn't even kiss me properly.

FI

Peggy, your beautiful. You just need to spice it up a bit that's all. Since me and Rich got engaged it's been like the honeymoon period all over again.

PEGGY

Ok, you can't have the honeymoon period before the honeymoon. Also don't you think I've tried that? I've tried whips, restraints, a electronic urethra stick.

FI

A what now?

PEGGY

It's not like that. It's deeper than that.

A beat.

FI

Haven't you been together for like ten years? Maybe it's time to move to the next level.

PEGGY

No, we've always said we wouldn't get married.

FI

Well what about a baby?

Peggy chugs her beer.

PEGGY

No.

FI

You're nearly thirty. You're body clock is ticking.

PEGGY

I can barely look after myself. Danny lives off rustlers burgers. I just can't see it.

FI

Can you not see yourself with a baby or can you not see yourself having a baby with Danny?

Peggy takes another long gulp of beer.

Peggy looks over at two handsome men using the jukebox. They are eyeing up two pretty girls dancing.

The two girls walk over. One of the boys at the jukebox grabs one of the girls arses. The girl giggles.

PEGGY

Did you know young people can get menopause?

FI

No, really?

PEGGY

Yeah a customer who came in today has it. She was our age.

FI

That must be shit. When my mum went through it she said it made her stop feeling like a real woman.

A beat.

FI (CONT'D)

So are you ready for the weekend?

PEGGY

Oh, um yeah.

A beat.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

I've been meaning to tell you. I got a really bad pay this month and I've had to cancel a bunch of my parties this week so I can't afford it. I'm so sorry.

FI

No. You're coming. I'll just lend you the money.

PEGGY

I can't take any money. I already owe you for throwing up on your extensions.

FI

You can't not come. This is my hen do!

PEGGY

Yeah but you're not getting married till next year. I thought you were gonna have another one nearer the time?

FI

But this is the main one. You're my best friend, do you know how embarrassing it would be if you didn't come?

PEGGY

None of your mates like me anyway.

FI

Of course they do. Jenny goes on about you all the time.

PEGGY

Does she? What does she say?

FI

She's says she admires how brave you are on Instagram.

PEGGY

Brave?

FI

What if you did Ann Summers party there? Then you are technically working and getting paid.

PEGGY

I dunno.

Fi gets on her knees.

FI

Please, please, please. I just got down on this piss filled floor for you. Don't make this more embarrassing.

PEGGY
Right, fuck it, Fine. But I'm not
putting my work voice on.

Fi tightly embraces Peggy.

FI
Oh my God. Thank you, you absolute
dildo queen! I love you.
(shouts to barman)
Two packets of bacon fries and a
pickled egg please!

PEGGY
Aw. You really know the key to my
heart!

CUT TO:

10 INT. PEGGY'S APARTMENT. LATER.

10

Peggy enters the apartment. Printed photographs of an
attractive woman in sexy underwear are sprawled across the
living room table.

PEGGY
This is just what I need to see.

Danny is sitting with his head in his hands.

PEGGY (CONT'D)
We need to talk.

DANNY
I agree.

Danny stands up.

PEGGY
You do?

DANNY
I know something has been up.

PEGGY
Really?

DANNY
Yeah. Let's sit down.

Danny takes a deep breath.

PEGGY I've got premature menopause. DANNY (CONT'D) I think we should break up.

PEGGY (CONT'D)
WHAT?

DANNY

I thought that's why you wanted to talk -

PEGGY

No.

DANNY

Menopause? What like the change?

PEGGY

What the fuck do you mean, break up?

DANNY

We obviously aren't happy.

PEGGY

I'm happy. I'm ecstatic. Since when have you been not been happy?

DANNY

The last six months.

PEGGY

What do you mean?

DANNY

I dunno.

Peggy drops her bag on the floor and stands up. Danny tries to comfort her but she pushes him away.

PEGGY

No.

DANNY

Look I'm sorry. I've just been thinking about it and I think it's what I need.

PEGGY

So that's it? You just wanna throw everything away? Obviously there's someone else.

DANNY

There isn't. I still love you but it's not the same anymore.

PEGGY

So what, it's the sex? I can sort it out, there's medication.

DANNY

It's not just that.

Danny sighs.

PEGGY

What?

DANNY

I'm not attracted to you anymore.

Peggy freezes.

DANNY (CONT'D)

It's not that you're not attractive. It's just that I don't think your my type sexually.

PEGGY

How can I not be your fucking type? We've been together for ten years.

DANNY

I'm sorry.

Peggy picks up one of the photos on the table.

PEGGY

So this is your type then?

DANNY

I dunno.

Peggy starts to cry.

DANNY (CONT'D)

It's nothing to do with you.

PEGGY

What are you... Did you fuck her? Fucking Pauperie whatever her name is.

DANNY

What, No. She's got nothing to do with...

Peggy manically pushing all the photos off the table.

PEGGY

This has got nothing to do with any of it?

DANNY

Peggy.

PEGGY

Do you think I'm stupid?

DANNY

Peggy. You're uh...

PEGGY

I know why grown men use snapchat.

Danny points to her pants. There is a period blood stain.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

What? Oh no it's a period. Can you not cope with a bit of reality? This is probably the last one I'll ever have so enjoy it you fucking prick.

Peggy storms off.

CUT TO:

11 EXT. COUNCIL ESTATE. SALFORD. DAY.

11

Peggy is dragging a suitcase down the road. She is sweating. Her eyes are bloodshot.

She walks up to a front door. There is an overflowing bin filled with pizza boxes.

Peggy knocks on the door.

JOSH opens the door.

PEGGY

Uh. Have I...

A confused Peggy looks around.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

What are you doing here?

JOSH

Um. Do you want me to get Bridget?

PEGGY

What the fuck is going...

BRIDGET (attractive, early fifties, too much filler) barges through the door in a silk camisole.

BRIDGET

Peggy! Hi, love.

Bridget frantically throws her arms around Peggy.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)

You feel different, have you stopped the yoga?

Peggy doesn't hug back.

Bridget notices Peggy staring at Josh. Bridget pulls back and puts his arm around Josh.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
I see you've met Josh.

PEGGY
You know I went to sixth form with him. Are you two?

BRIDGET
Did you?

Bridget giggles.

PEGGY
Jesus Christ.

CUT TO:

12 INT. BRIDGETS HOUSE. SALFORD. DAY.

12

McDonalds wrappers, beer cans and moldy tea cups are scattered around the living room.

Bridget stands on a gaming controller and kicks it away.

BRIDGET
Excuse the mess.

There is a large tanning bed and a one seater settee.

Josh sits in front of the TV and plays on his Xbox.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
What's happened?

PEGGY
Can we speak in private?

BRIDGET
Josh? Can you put the headphones on? Thanks babe.

Josh puts the headphones on.

JOSH
Bridget, Will you get us a scotch egg?

BRIDGET
Yeah.

Peggy pulls a face and follows Bridget into the kitchen.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
Has he gone off with someone else?

PEGGY

No. I don't know. I just need somewhere to stay for a while.

BRIDGET

Of course.

Bridget loudly chews on some strawberry laces. She holds them out to Peggy. She eats one.

PEGGY

He said he's not attracted to me.

BRIDGET

I bet he's gone off with some sexy young blonde. He's always lurking around those types.

PEGGY

Thanks.

BRIDGET

I always said he was a prick. I'll never forget when he wouldn't put money towards Granddad's sundae at TGI's. And he didn't sing.

Bridget takes out a scotch egg from the fridge.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)

Thank God you didn't get pregnant with him.

Peggy picks up the bag and eats more.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)

Are you on Tinder yet?

PEGGY

No. Are you mad? It literally just happened.

BRIDGET

What's the use of wallowing? It's time to get back out there.

PEGGY

I've never been out there. I've been with him since I was sixteen.

BRIDGET

I reckon Bumble is a good place to ease yourself in. The women have to talk first so you know the men who use it are proper gentleman. That's where I started talking to Josh.

PEGGY

Mum, you realise that it's really fucking creepy you're going out with someone my age?

BRIDGET

You're not that much younger than me.

PEGGY

You gave birth to me.

BRIDGET

Yeah but we're more like sisters. He's very mature for his age. He's really smart and in tune with his feelings. That's hard to find past forty.

PEGGY

He got caught wanking in a boiler room to a signed photo of the Coronation Street cast.

BRIDGET

He's grown up now, Peggy. People change.

PEGGY

Does he still work in the Co-op?

BRIDGET

No he got sacked but he's working really hard to find a new job at the moment.

JOSH O.O.S

Scotch egg!

BRIDGET

Coming.

PEGGY

I think I'm going to have a nap. Have you got some pyjamas I could throw on?

BRIDGET

Course, have a look in my room.

CUT TO:

13

INT. BRIDGETS BEDROOM. DAY.

13

Peggy opens the top drawer which is filled with condoms and thongs. She quickly closes it.

She opens the drawer under to only find silky dresses. She holds one up. It looks tiny compared to her.

CUT TO:

14 INT. PEGGY'S OLD BEDROOM. DAY.

14

Peggy enters a tiny box room with her suitcase. She bangs her foot on a weight on the floor.

PEGGY

Fuck!

She hops to the bed. The suitcase takes up the only space in the room. Most of her childhood memories are gone apart from some cross stitches.

She routes through her coat pockets to find the menopause support group pamphlet. She skims through it then throws it in the bin. She lies back and closes her eyes.

INT. BRIDGETS LIVING ROOM. LATER.

Peggy walks downstairs to see Bridget dressed in heels and a bodycon dress.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

Are you going out?

BRIDGET

We're just gonna go for a bit of food. Josh has got a Pizza Express voucher. You ok?

PEGGY

I just wanted to talk but it doesn't matter.

Peggy looks disheartened.

BRIDGET

We won't be too late. There's a microwave curry in the fridge if you want it. See you later, love.

Bridget and Josh leave. Peggy is unsure what to do with herself.

CUT TO:

15 INT. BRIDGET'S KITCHEN. NIGHT. 15

Peggy eats the microwave curry from the packaging.

CUT TO

16 INT. BRIDGET'S LIVING ROOM. DAY. 16

Peggy cleans up the mess of empty cans and half eaten pizza thats sprawled all over the room.

BRIDGET O.O.S
(shouting - rough)
Peggy, love! Could you bring me up
some paracetamol and an orange
juice please.

CUT TO:

17 INT. BRIDGET'S BEDROOM. MOMENTS LATER. 17

Bridget is lying in bed and looking worse for wear. The bedding is leopard print. There are four different black and white photos of Bridget from a photoshoot blown up on the walls.

Peggy puts the juice and paracetamol on the bedside table.

BRIDGET
Ta love. Could you put it in my
hand? I'm feeling a bit weak.

Peggy picks up the glass and puts it in her hand. Bridget dramatically sighs.

Josh walks in wearing only a small towel. He nods at Peggy then gets in bed. Josh and Bridgett kiss.

Peggy grimaces and leaves.

CUT TO:

18 INT. CHESHIRE GLAMPING. CAMP SITE. EVENING. 18

Fi and the girls are drinking inside a Tipi.

Peggy struggles to carry two large bags over to the table.

KAT
That's a lot of stuff. I hope it's
free!

Peggy hides her night bag.

JENNY
Ladies, it's prosecco o'clock!

JENNY hands out glasses of prosecco with pink penis straws to all the girls except Peggy.

JENNY (CONT'D)
One for you. One for you and the biggest one for you. We know you like them big.

FI
Oh my god, Jenny!

JENNY
I won't tell Rich you sucked on another dick.

SHANNON
What happens in the tipi, stay in the tipi!

The girls are in hysterics.

FI
Peg needs one.

JENNY
Oh, sorry Peggy. I didn't think it was appropriate to have one on the job.

PEGGY
No, I'll have one. Ta.

Jenny starts pouring her a glass. She only puts a small amount in.

PEGGY (CONT'D)
A bit more.

CUT TO:

19 INT. CAMP SITE. LATER.

19

The girls pass around a rampant rabbit vibrator.

PEGGY
So this bad boy is the thrusting one. Which is designed to push onto both the g-spot and clit simultaneously to give you that real toe curling orgasm. Have a feel.

SHANNON
Oh my God. It feels real.

JENNY

Yeah if you are fucking a Wall-E.

KAT

How do you get that in there?

FI

Obviously, you haven't had a real man, Kat. That's nothing compared to Rich.

PEGGY

Or what about that guy we met in Benidorm who had a Mr Blobby tattoo, he was massive.

Only Peggy laughs. Fi looks annoyed.

JENNY

You went to Benidorm?

PEGGY

We went four times.

FI

Ages ago. You couldn't pay me to go there now.

JENNY

God I know. How tacky. We can be so naive as kids. I really found myself on my trip to East Asia. I think you need to travel to find your spiritual side.

FI

Definitely.

PEGGY

I reckon Julia Roberts would have had a better time watching Sticky Vicky shoot out ping pong balls from her...

Fi gives Peggy a stern look.

KAT

What's the best thing for couples? I don't think my fella would like me having this to myself.

PEGGY

Well if you want to spruce it up a bit, you could try a clit stim or a cock ring. Like this one.

Peggy hands over a cock ring to Jenny.

JENNY
I definitely don't need anything
like that. I'm enough for him.

FI
What do you and Dan use?

A beat.

PEGGY
(Quietly)
We broke up.

FI
What?

Peggy takes out some order forms and hands them to the girls.

PEGGY
So if you want to mark what it is
that you want on here.

FI
You broke up? Why didn't you tell
me?

PEGGY
It's not a biggie. It's just a
break really.

JENNY
Wow.

FI
Are you serious? Since when did
you?

PEGGY
(stern)
Can we just leave it tonight?

Jenny's phone rings.

JENNY
One second.

She leaves the room to answer.

Kat is staring at her phone.

KAT
Oh my God. Have you seen this mee-
mee?

It's a picture of a glass of wine that reads, 'The glass is
half full, the bottle is half empty.'

Kat and Shannon laugh hysterically.

PEGGY

So you just tick the item you want.

Nobody fills in the boxes except Fi who ticks fluffy hand cuffs.

SHANNON

I actually know a cute independent on Insta that sell better quality sex toys online and they cover all their products in gemstones.

KAT

Oh my god, that sounds so cute.

JENNY

(quietly in phone)

Just come through the green doors.
Now. Yeah.

Jenny hangs up and walks over to the girls.

JENNY (CONT'D)

So, Fiona. You're about to spend the rest of your life with the man of your dreams and you can finally say goodbye to singledom forever. But, as we know, what happens in the tipi stays in the tipi.

Jenny winks at the girls.

JENNY (CONT'D)

So for one night only, let me introduce you to the man of the evening... Sebastian!

The girls scream and applaud.

A below average looking Scouse man in his forties with gelled back hair and bootcut jeans casually walks into the room.

SEBASTIAN

Y'alright?

The girls look confused.

JENNY

Are you Sebastian?

SEBASTIAN

I am, yeah. You got any speakers?

JENNY

Did you not bring anything?

SEBASTIAN

I've got my phone but it doesn't really sound as good on that. It's better if it's louder.

FI

I've got some.

Fi hands him the speakers.

SEBASTIAN

I can't use them fancy apple ones.

FI

You connect it with bluetooth.

SEBASTIAN

How'd you do that?

Fi reluctantly takes his phone. His background is a selfie of himself.

FI

There you go.

SEBASTIAN

Thanks La.

Sebastian sets up his song.

He takes a deep breath and closes his eyes.

DJ OTZI - HEY BABY starts to play. He waves his arms in the air to the music.

FI

(Mouths to Peggy)
What the fuck?

He dances like a drunken dad at a wedding and slowly starts to take his clothes off.

He throws his No Fear shirt on Jenny.

PEGGY

(quietly)
God.

The girls are horrified. Fi covers her eyes.

He's only wearing purple Pringle boxers that are slightly too large for him, showing his arse crack.

He dances towards Fi. He thrusts his crotch into her face.

FI

No, thank you!

Fi jumps out of her seat and pushes him out the way.

FI (CONT'D)
That's enough. Thanks Sebastian.

SEBASTIAN
Fair.

Sebastian turns off his music and picks up his clothes.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)
You don't mind if I have a sarnie,
do ya?

JENNY
Umm well...

PEGGY
Yeah, go ahead Sebastian.

Peggy hands him the platter.

Jenny scours at Peggy.

JENNY
(to Fi)
I am so sorry. That is not the same
man from the website, I assure you.

Sebastian starts picking up more sandwiches.

PEGGY
Eat the whole tray.

The two of them scoff on the sandwiches.

JENNY
You're based in Salford right?

SEBASTIAN
(mouthful)
Yeah.

JENNY
You don't mind dropping Peggy off,
do you? Saves her money for an
Uber.

SEBASTIAN
Yeah thats alright. I did spill a
Maccies milkshake the other day so
there is a bit of a smell if you
don't mind.

FI
Oh. Peggy's staying overnight.

PEGGY

Uh, no no. It's fine. I'm really knackered anyway.

FI

Are you sure? You don't have to.

PEGGY

Yeah don't worry. I've had a great time.

Peggy and Fi hug.

FI

Love you.

Sebastian grabs two trays of food.

CUT TO:

20

INT. SEBASTIAN'S CAR. NIGHT.

20

They both sit in Sebastian's red Corsa. The floor is filled with takeaway wrappers.

PEGGY

Is that your real name? Sebastian?

SEBASTIAN

Nah it's Mad John.

PEGGY

Mad John? Who gave you that name?

SEBASTIAN

I did. Out of all my mates I'm the maddest. Get us all together and I'm bound to do something fucking mental

PEGGY

Like what?

SEBASTIAN

Probably get my dick out. Something like that.

PEGGY

That's your job.

SEBASTIAN

What? Oh yeah. Well I'm a jack of all trades. I'll give anything a go, me. Gardener, Joiner, Reiki. I'll do it all.

Peggy is on Lavender Rose's Instagram page. She scrolls through all her pictures. Dan has liked every photo.

Sebastian tries to look over and hits a bump in the road. The car bounces.

PEGGY

Fuck a duck!

SEBASTIAN

What?

PEGGY

I've liked her fucking picture.

SEBASTIAN

Whose?

PEGGY

From 2015! Fuck.

SEBASTIAN

Oh no.

PEGGY

I've unliked it! What if she's already seen it? Will she get a notification?

SEBASTIAN

Why are you arsed?

PEGGY

Because I look like a maniac stalker.

SEBASTIAN

Do you care about this person?

PEGGY

No.

SEBASTIAN

Let her think you're a stalker then. Do you think I care that people think I'm mad?

PEGGY

Well.

SEBASTIAN

My mates take the piss out of me doing this but I'm not gonna let that stop me. Don't waste your time otherwise you'll do fuck all interesting with your life.

PEGGY

I spend all my time worrying what people I don't even like, think of me.

A beat.

So what if I'm single, in a job I can't stand and going through menopause. Fuck it.

SEBASTIAN

Yeah fuck it.

Sebastian high fives her.

CUT TO:

21

INT. SEBASTIAN'S CAR. LATER.

21

Sebastian parks the car.

SEBASTIAN

This guy sounds like a dick anyway. You can do far better. You're a cool lass, you are.

Peggy leans and they kiss.

Sebastian harshly swings his tongue around in her mouth like a washing machine.

Peggy seems overwhelmed and slightly exhausted. After ten seconds of 'passionate' kissing she nudges him back.

She fakes a smile.

He wipes the saliva from his mouth.

She pats him on the shoulder.

PEGGY

Well thanks for the lift and that, Mad John.

A beat.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

Good luck with everything.

SEBASTIAN

Are you going, yeah? Alright. You too.

Peggy gets out of the car.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

By the way.

Peggy holds the door.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Umm... Have you got Snapchat?

CUT TO:

22 INT. PEGGY'S OLD BEDROOM. NIGHT.

22

Peggy is rooting through her bedroom drawers and listening to OASIS - STOP CRYING YOUR HEART OUT. She pulls out some old gig tickets and an old photo of her and Danny. They are both pissed at an Oasis gig and wearing matching bucket hats. Her hair is much longer.

Josh and Bridget are giggling loudly in the other room. She kicks the door shut.

She catches her reflection in the mirror. Her hair is messy and in a bun. She takes her hair out and starts to brush it through with her fingers. A clump of her hair falls out.

She pulls apart the lump of hair and covers the photo with it.

She throws the hair and photo in the bin and notices the menopause pamphlet.

CUT TO:

23 INT. SUPPORT GROUP. THE ANGEL CENTRE. SALFORD DAY.

23

Peggy is in a spacious recreational centre. A handwritten sign on a door reads 'The M Word.'

Peggy peeps through the glass on the door. BRADLEY (scraggly haired twenty something) and BEV (A smiley fifty something) are laying out cupcakes on the table.

There are several other women sitting on chairs.

Bradley kisses her goodbye. Peggy quickly moves away and pretends to read the bulletin board.

Bradley balances several large Tupperware boxes and the top one falls on the floor.

Peggy picks up the Tupperware.

BRADLEY

Thank you. My mum always wants a ridiculous amount of cakes when only half a dozen people show up.

PEGGY

I'm sure I'll get a lot of them eaten.

BRADLEY

Is your mum in the group too?

PEGGY

Uh Yeah. Yeah she is.

BRADLEY

Is your's a lot to deal with too? Yesterday she cried watching The Chase.

PEGGY

Yeah, she's an absolute nightmare. I mean I dunno what to do with her.

BRADLEY

Are you staying here or?

PEGGY

Oh yeah. I'm gonna stay. Check she got in alright. You know what they're like.

Bradley laughs.

BRADLEY

See you.

Peggy waves then rolls her eyes when he turns around.

PEGGY

(under her breath)
God sake.

CUT TO:

24 INT. 'THE M WORD' ROOM. ANGEL CENTRE. SALFORD. DAY. 24

Five women gather around on uncomfortable fold chairs. They are all sweating.

Peggy nervously walks in.

BEV

Are you ok?

PEGGY

I'm here for the support group.

BEV

I think you've got the wrong one. This is for menopause, lovey.

PEGGY

Yeah. I rang earlier, my names
Peggy.

BEV

Oh.

The women look around at each other in shock.

BEV (CONT'D)

Ok. Come and grab a seat.

Peggy grabs a chair from the room and puts it next to a
familiar face, JOY. Peggy smiles. Joy turns away.

BEV (CONT'D)

So Peggy, tell us a bit about
yourself.

Bev waits for Peggy to say something.

PEGGY

My names Peggy. I'm twenty-seven
years old and I have premature
menopause.

GINA

It ain't a bloody AA meeting love.

PEGGY

What was I supposed to say?

BEV

Well, you can say whatever you
wan't dear. Usually people might
start with their hobbies or
interests.

PEGGY

Well I like to cross stitch.

GINA

Your name's Peggy, you cross stitch
and you've got menopause. Are you
having a bloody laugh?

BEV

Gina! That's not appropriate.

JOY

She didn't know anything about
menopause the other day.

BEV

What's that? Do you two know each
other?

No. JOY Yes. PEGGY

PEGGY (CONT'D)
I served her in Ann Summers.

The women gasp.

ELAINE
What were you doing in Ann Summers,
Joy?

JOY
I told you, I was advised to get
some lubricant and things.

GINA
I bet that's not all she bought,
the kinky bitch.

The girls laugh. Joy is distressed.

BEV
Right, ladies. Calm down now.

A beat.

BEV (CONT'D)
Having menopause your age must be
very distressing. Do you have
children?

PEGGY
No.

Peggy starts biting her nails.

DAWN
You got a fella?

Peggy gets up.

PEGGY
I'm sorry but I don't know if this
is for me. I don't know why I came.

BEV
Peggy, please don't. We're sorry.
This is a safe space and we've
already put too much on your plate.

Peggy sits down.

ELAINE
Why don't we play a game?

DAWN
Jesus. You and your games.

GINA
 Fuck. Marry. Kill. Dermot O'Leary,
 Gino, Les Dennis.

BEV
 How about Desert Island picks?

CUT TO:

25 EXT. ANGEL CENTRE. LATER. 25

Bev catches up with Peggy.

BEV
 I hope that wasn't too
 overwhelming. They're a lovely
 bunch really.

PEGGY
 I'm sure.

BEV
 Do you fancy a pint?

PEGGY
 Now?

BEV
 Yeah, why not?

CUT TO:

26 INT. THE PEVRIL AND THE PEAK. PUB. MANCHESTER. DAY. 26

Peggy and Bev are drinking pints.

PEGGY
 Now this the right environment for
 oversharing every aspect of my
 life.

BEV
 Have you spoken to anyone about it?
 Your mum?

PEGGY
 No. I don't think I could.

A beat.

PEGGY (CONT'D)
 She's banging someone I went to six
 form with.

Bev's eyes widen.

BEV

Wow.

PEGGY

Sometimes I think she planned all this. That's why she called me Peggy.

BEV

I think Peggy is a trendy name. I reckon Gwyneth Paltrow is gutted she didn't think of that one.

A beat.

BEV (CONT'D)

Menopause isn't the be all end all. Some of the ladies get up to all sorts I can tell you that. I Hope you can come next week.

PEGGY

I don't know if the other girls like me.

BEV

They do. They just like giving the newbie a tough time. Not to mention their moods are all over the bloody shop.

Peggy smiles.

BEV (CONT'D)

It's good to have someone who understands what you're going through...

CUT TO:

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

27

INT. SUPERMARKET. DAY.

27

Peggy is down the milk isle and dripping with sweat. She holds a bottle of cold milk up to her forehead.

BEV V.O

The constant hot flashes.

CUT TO:

28 INT. OLD BEDROOM. NIGHT. 28

Peggy is rolling back and forth in her underwear. There is a very large patch of sweat around her. The quilt is on the floor.

BEV V.O

The night sweats that make you
sweat your entire body mass by the
hour...

CUT TO

29 INT. BATHROOM. 29

Peggy is desperately trying to get her skinny jeans on but they wont go over her thighs.

BEV V.O

Yet you're putting on weight by the
second.

Peggy is out of breath. She leans on the wall for support.

BEV V.O (CONT'D)

The constant exhaustion. The muscle
aches.

Peggy looks in the mirror.

BEV V.O (CONT'D)

The hair thinning, the cracking
skin and worst of all that little
voice in your head that's telling
you that you're the most revolting,
worthless piece of scum to ever
have ever walked on this planet.

CUT TO:

END FLASHBACK:

INT. THE PEVRIL AND THE PEAK. CONTINUOUS.

Bev smiles.

PEGGY

Yeah, this explains a lot.

They both drink their beer.

BEV

If you don't want to come then take
my number. Just gimme a call if you
ever need a natter.

Bev takes out a pen and paper from her bag and writes down her number.

PEGGY
Thanks, Bev.

Bev's phone is vibrating.

BEV
Oh, my son's here. He's an angel
always taking care of me. You and
him would get along like a house on
fire.

Peggy quickly shoots out of her chair.

PEGGY
I better go, I forgot I'm supposed
to be somewhere.

BEV
Oh. Well, give me a bell and you
know where to find me.

PEGGY
Thanks.

Peggy rushes out of the pub leaving her half drunken pint.

CUT TO:

30

EXT. PORTLAND STREET. MOMENTS LATER.

30

Peggy is walking down the high street. She plays DIDO - WHITE FLAG on her phone. She stops at a traffic light and notices Bradley walking towards her. She quickly turns her head and dramatically bops her head to the music.

BRADLEY
Hey!

Peggy pretends to look shocked. It's a little over the top.

PEGGY
Oh, hey! Sorry.

She takes her headphones out.

PEGGY (CONT'D)
I was just in my own little world.

BRADLEY
Yeah, you were in a vibe. Sorry for
interrupting.

PEGGY

Oh it's just Dido. A bit cringe. I was just feeling a bit nostalgic.

BRADLEY

Mate, I love Dido. I used to proper fancy her when I was in high school.

The traffic light turns green.

PEGGY

You did?

BRADLEY

Yeah, she's well fit.

Peggy is gleaming. She notices everybody has already crossed the road.

PEGGY

Sorry.

BRADLEY

No worries. I might see you next week?

Peggy crosses the road whilst facing Bradley.

PEGGY

Probably yeah. See ya.

She turns around and bites her lip.

She puts Dido back on and joyously walks down Oxford Road.

CUT TO:

31 INT. BRIDGET'S HOUSE. DAY.

31

Peggy walks in and Josh is on the playstation.

JOSH

Come on you little shit. Come on.

There is a half eaten Pot Noodle beside him. The spoon is stuck to the carpet.

She pushes away a bunch of games that are on the couch and watches him.

PEGGY

Do people from school know about this then?

He doesn't take his eyes off the screen.

JOSH
Probably. I'm not gonna hide her,
am I?

PEGGY
Are you not embarrassed?

JOSH
No.
(to the tv)
Shit, shit, come on!

He bashes the controller buttons.

Peggy spots Josh is wearing a My Chemical Romance 2008 tour hoodie.

PEGGY
Have you got my hoodie on?

He takes a spoonful of Pot Noodle and it drips down the hoodie.

BRIDGET O.O.S
Josh!

JOSH
Nearly, yes, yes.

The door opens.

Bridget stands in the doorway - looking taken aback.

PEGGY
Y'alright, mum?

Peggy clocks a pregnancy test in her hand.

Peggy gasps.

Josh takes off his headset.

BRIDGET
I'm pregnant.

The camera zooms in on both a mortified Peggy and a terrified Josh.

PEGGY
What the...

JOSH
FUCK.

CUT TO BLACK.