

# PEGGY

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**INT. DAY. THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF IRELAND**

PEGGY (29, pretty, timid, put-together) sits on a bench in front of a painting. There is something restrained about her, like a small dog trying to please its owner in exchange for a treat.

On her lap - a sketchbook. She is attempting to faithfully copy the painting in front of her. Her sketch is cautious; the lines are faint. She sighs in frustration and erases a portion of what she's drawn. She looks up again.

A COUPLE catch her eye. They both have dyed hair and jaunty hats - art students. HE points at something in the painting. SHE laughs. HE laughs loudly at her laugh. SHE sushes him. HE kisses her. PEGGY looks back at her sketch book and sees the time.

PEGGY

Fuck.

**EXT. DAY. DUBLIN STREETS.**

PEGGY moves quickly through crowded streets, from the gallery to the river. [EMMA](#) by Kean Kavanagh plays. The credits roll. She walks down along the waterfront to one of the shiny buildings at Grand Canal Dock.

**INT. DAY. LUMNIATION NATION OFFICES**

PEGGY arrives at the offices of Illumination Nation, an app that allows you to control the lights in your home. Around the office, we see ads for the app in which middle-class white couples clutch their phones and gasp with joy as the lamps in their living rooms turn on.

PEGGY enters a glass-walled meeting room. A small group of people sit around a very large table looking lethargic post-lunch, except for RYAN (32, South Dublin, smarmy), who leans forward eagerly.

CAOMHAN (35) sits at the head of the table. He wears pseudo-intellectual chunky glasses and complicated runners. He looks like a boy dressed as a man. A flicker of annoyance passes across his face as he takes in PEGGY's tardiness.

PEGGY holds up a hand, offering an apology and a hasty introduction.

PEGGY

Peggy. . .

CAOMHAN

Great.

Ok, I think we can get started.

RYAN

Deadly.

CAOMHAN

Look, I'm really excited to work with all of you,  
but I have to be honest, I think we  
need to kick into gear from a  
marketing perspective, dyouknowwaddimean?

RYAN

Totally.

CAOMHAN

Like - how is it Valentine's Day and there's no  
seasonal campaign?

Our users must think that -

That we just don't give a shit about their love lives.

RYAN performs a look of outrage/agreement. PEGGY looks at RYAN with a  
mixture of pity and defeat.

CAOMHAN

If we're going to make an impact in the domestic  
interior market - we need to acknowledge the holidays  
that bring joy to our user, ok?

So I think we should hit the ground running -  
start spit-balling ideas for this day  
next year. Let's go.

There is an awkward beat. No one knows if they're supposed to speak.

RYAN

Start working on some decks you mean?

CAOMHAN

No - Here. Now.  
I want to hear your ideas - off the cuff.  
How can Illumination Nation build engagement around  
Valentine's Day?

RYAN

Yes. Totally.  
So actually I was already thinking about this and I  
Think it's gotta be an influencer campaign?  
We fly everyone out to Paris - rugby players,  
fucking - instagram models, yerone with the  
wheelchair?  
Get them all to the Eiffel tower.  
They open Illumination Nation and they can -  
with one tap - just turn on the lights of the Eiffel  
Tower. Boom.  
Another tap - SMASH!  
Fireworks.  
Maybe we get, like, a proposal? One of the rugby  
players and one of the models?  
Socials going mental!  
It's like "You should light your life up"

RYAN realises this is a terrible tagline, and keeps riffing:

RYAN

"Illuminate up your love."  
"Now too you can illuminate up your. . . love life"

CAOMHAN

Good. Yeah.  
Has virality potential for sure.  
Clodagh?

CLODAGH is very glamorous - long nails, perfectly quaffed hair. She  
looks a bit surprised, but eager to impress.

CLODAGH

Oh em - maybe User Generated Content?  
Around the idea that Illumination Nation can  
make people in fall in love with you.

CLODAGH (cont.)

With one tap, your crush will feel a light in  
their heart.  
Our app is like a love potion.

CAOMHAN

Ok good. It has punch.  
But -  
Coercion, drugging - people are really  
sensitive to that right now.

CLODAGH

Oh my god - I didn't even - yeah - oops!

CLODAGH blushes in shame and looks to PEGGY for reassurance.  
PEGGY smiles at her supportively.

CAOMHAN

No it's good. There's definitely -  
there's something in it.  
Peggy?

PEGGY is taken aback. RYAN is affronted.

PEGGY

Oh I don't / I'm just a -

RYAN

/ She's just a Junior Copywriter.

I don't do / creative

/ She doesn't do this

CAOMHAN

Look, if you're going to be on my team, you  
need to contribute, yeah? Come on - I'm sure  
you've something? Some ideas?

PEGGY hesitates. The room looks expectant.

PEGGY

Em - I don't know.  
I -  
I guess  
You could look at smaller moments?  
Like - em

PEGGY (Cont.)

An ad where -  
It's the middle of the night.  
And we see this couple asleep. And we hear their baby  
crying. And the woman gets up and takes the baby to  
the other room.  
It's dark so she can't see - keeps bumping into  
things. She sits down in an armchair, starts feeding.  
And we watch her - alone in the dark with her child,  
exhausted.  
And then - out of nowhere - this lamp comes on beside  
her - just slowly - gradually glowing using them em,  
like someone using the - / dimmer rise function

CAOMHAN

/ the dimmer rise function?

PEGGY

Yeah.  
Her husband in the other room, turning the  
light up, looking out for her.  
And then we see him in the doorway - he's come in to  
take over from her. Or maybe it's not a man at all. .  
Maybe they're both women.  
And her partner takes over, lets her go back to  
bed. And then the partner puts on some of the other  
features like-

RYAN

Like the pulsating colours!

PEGGY

Yeah. And the baby's completely mesmerised.  
Starts to drift off. And it's just  
- I don't know -  
"Light up the ones you love?"  
Or something.

The team is stunned. They wait to hear Caomhan's reaction.

CAOMHAN

Ok. Yeah. Yeah.

I mean - don't quit the day job.

But it's good. Just - a bit, you know -

Soft for what we're looking for.

But good.

**INT. EVENING. PEGGY'S APARTMENT**

PEGGY gets home, visibly worn out from the day. She hangs her coat in the hallway and goes into the kitchen. The table is laid for two in a ceremonial Valentines Day fashion. Our hopes rise for her.

IAN - handsome, kind, teatowel on his shoulder - turns from the kitchen counters and smiles.

IAN

Hey

PEGGY

Hey

A beat - intimacy?

CARA (27, beautiful, forceful) enters the kitchen. She is taken aback by PEGGY's presence.

CARA

That toerag!

PEGGY

Hello

CARA

Not you - your date. He's canceled as well?

PEGGY

No, no we're still. . .

It's still happening - I just wanted  
to get changed first

CARA

Why? You look so cute!

PEGGY

I feel all - worky

IAN

New boy?

PEGGY

Fresh meat.

**INT. PEGGY'S APARTMENT**

Peggy selects clothes from her wardrobe, which is stored in the hallway outside her bedroom. When she goes into the bedroom, we see why. It's tiny - a cupboard. A single bed and shelf. A small window. She changes and removes some clothes from a hook on the back of the door so she can see herself in the mirror. She examines her reflection. There is a soft knock on the door.

CARA

Hey!

Oh that's nice

PEGGY

Not too "nun-on-the-loose"

CARA

Sophisticated

PEGGY

I feel boring

CARA

You are never boring. Except that time you went on and on and on about the renaissance. Where are you going?

PEGGY

Somewhere on the quays I don't know  
- He chose it.

CARA

Are you gonna stay out, you think?

PEGGY

Yeah, yeah probably.

CARA

Yeah? Ok cool. PERFECT. Have fun!

**INT. NIGHT. A CROWDED DUBLIN PUB**

PEGGY and AIDAN (29) are jammed against the wall in a CROWDED PUB. AIDAN is tall, with a ponytail and tattoos. His face is somewhat dopey, but sweet.

AIDAN

A what?

PEGGY

A writer.

AIDAN

Books?

PEGGY

No - I work for this company. It's like an app where you can control all the lights in your house. So you can make mood lighting - Or, turn on the lights before you get home so - so you don't have to come back to a dark house

AIDAN

Fuck, that is stupidest shit I've ever heard. Can people not even flip a light switch any more?

PEGGY

Yeah, I know - it's whatever But it pays well so - I'm saving

AIDAN

For what?

PEGGY

(laughing awkwardly)

I don't know? The future?

AIDAN

There is no future. No one told you?  
We're all going to be under water

PEGGY

(trying to change the subject)  
And you're a consultant. Your profile said?

AIDAN

Yeah I'm like a music consultant.  
People send me their music and I consult  
And give them feedback

PEGGY

Oh. Ok.

AIDAN gestures to the band on stage.

AIDAN

These guys are like. . . my clients.  
Do you want to dance?

Peggy hesitates. She takes a very large gulp of her white wine.

PEGGY

Sure.

They move into the throbbing crowd. Peggy is cautious at first, but Aidan loves the music and his enthusiasm is infectious. Peggy allows herself to be roughed about by the audience. She starts to genuinely enjoy herself.

Later -

PEGGY and AIDAN are sitting in a booth - drunker, looser.

AIDAN

So - are you gonna blow all your money  
on those swimming lessons?

PEGGY

What?

AIDAN

For when we're under water.

PEGGY

*(laughing)*

Fuck you. I'm going to buy a house.

AIDAN

Are you the CEO of the light bulb company?

PEGGY

I'm a Junior Copywriter

AIDAN

Yeah you're not buying a gaff.

Lawyers and accountants - can't even buy gaffs anymore.

Unless - you have the bank of mum & dad?

Is that what's going on here?

PEGGY

No. I'm from Fairview.

AIDAN

Finglas.

PEGGY

Ok.

AIDAN

So I win

PEGGY

You win.

AIDAN

And believe me, I've tried it too - the penny pinching.

But it's shite. And when it all goes tits up, people are gonna realise how much time they wasted *saving*.

I'm only saying this cause I want you to have fun.

PEGGY

I am having fun.

AIDAN

Yeah?

PEGGY

Yeah.

They kiss.

AIDAN

Do you want to come back to mine? I have my bike outside.

PEGGY's interest is piqued.

PEGGY

Like a motorbike?

CUT TO -

**EXT. DUBLIN STREETS.**

We see AIDAN cycling through Dublin streets, giving PEGGY a backer. She holds out her legs and buries her face in the back of his shirt.

**INT. NIGHT. AIDAN'S HOUSE**

They arrive at Aidan's shared house in Tallaght. It's cold and grubby. PEGGY and AIDAN attempt to navigate the bikes in the hallway without waking up the other residents. AIDAN gestures to his room. PEGGY pushes the door open. We see an unmade mattress with a single pillow. There's a bare bulb swinging overhead. PEGGY sits down cautiously, trying not to touch off anything. AIDAN enters holding two beers.

AIDAN

Do you drink beer? I don't have anything else.

PEGGY

Then sure.

AIDAN

(gesturing to the room)

Sorry it's not more -

I only moved in like a year ago so I'm still getting everything decorated.

AIDAN tries to attach a red t-shirt to the bare lightbulb to create an ambience. He sits down beside her. They sit in silence. But PEGGY's made up her mind - she's here and she wants her bit. She leans in to kiss him. She straddles him. He flips her onto her back. For a moment, it's genuinely hot. Then, as he's kissing her neck, he moans:

AIDAN  
You're so . . . sound.

PEGGY looks puzzled. The moment is ruined. She pushes him off her slightly.

AIDAN  
What?

PEGGY  
Just. . .

AIDAN  
What?

PEGGY  
It's not very -  
Like "sound"?

AIDAN  
You don't wanna be called "sound"?

PEGGY  
In this context? Could you not say - hot? Or /

AIDAN  
/ being sound is better than being hot

PEGGY looks genuinely hurt.

AIDAN  
You're hot as well. So hot.

PEGGY starts to put her clothes back on.

AIDAN  
Peggy. Will ye stay?  
C'mere.

He bundles her up.

I'm sorry, I fucked it. Will ye stay?  
Just for a cuddle like. Please.

She sighs. They spoon. AIDAN falls asleep. He snores. PEGGY stares at the wall. She can't sleep. After some time, she extracts herself. She quietly gathers her things in the dark.

**INT. NIGHT. A TAXI.**

The lights of the city flicker across Peggy's face. She nearly nods off. Finally, she arrives at her destination.

TAXI DRIVER  
That's fifty love.

PEGGY  
What?

TAXI DRIVER  
Just fifty when you're ready.

PEGGY  
How is it fifty?

TAXI DRIVER  
Traffic was brutal. Sorry love.

PEGGY pays, reluctantly.  
As she makes her way up to her apartment, she begins to cry.

**INT. NIGHT. PEGGY'S APARTMENT**

PEGGY opens the door. We hear a hurried kerfuffle.  
IAN runs frantically through the hallway, ball-gag in his mouth, wearing nothing but a harness, clutching his bits & bobs. CARA runs after him, frantically pulling a fluffy dressing gown over her own kinky attire.

CARA  
What the fuck, Peggy?  
What the actual fuck?

CARA (cont.)  
You need to -  
If you're gonna be here you need  
to tell us!

PEGGY is left in the silence of the hallway, in shock.  
Quietly, to no one -

PEGGY  
But I live here.

**INT. CAR. DAY**

PEGGY is driving with her best friend Sophie - 29, beautiful, mischievous.

SOPHIE

Good god, I will NEVER be able to scrub that image from my tiny little brain. A ball gag?

PEGGY

I think so - it was hard to see.

SOPHIE

IAN you dark horse. I did not have him pegged as a kinky boy.

PEGGY

That's a shame. I'd say he'd love a good pegging.

They laugh.

**INT. A SERVICE STATION.**

PEGGY and SOPHIE sit opposite each other in a generic-looking service station. PEGGY has a chaotic number of snacks laid out in front of her and is picking at each of them.

SOPHIE

Have you talked about it?

PEGGY

No, obviously not. I haven't even used the kitchen since it happened. I've been making potnoodles in the office. Roisin from accounts stopped me to tell me about their nutritional deficiency yesterday. She said she was genuinely concerned for my health.

SOPHIE

(looking at Peggy's snacks)  
I'm not sure I disagree.

PEGGY

Hey! I get panicked in these places. We're on the road! Is it breakfast? Is it lunch?

SOPHIE  
Monster Munch are very versatile.

PEGGY  
You can't say ANYTHING about Ian and Cara  
when we're down here, ok?

SOPHIE  
I won't.

PEGGY  
Not even one of your little eyebrows.

SOPHIE  
I can't help having eyebrows.

PEGGY  
When you find something funny and your  
eyebrow goes like -

Peggy does an impression, her face contorting.

SOPHIE  
I don't -

PEGGY  
You do.  
And it always makes me laugh so you  
can't do it

SOPHIE holds her hands up.

SOPHIE  
Ok.  
I'll try not to.

Beat.

And the date was shite?

PEGGY  
Shite -  
We didn't even -  
I haven't had proper sex in six months.

SOPHIE

Good gracious.  
I'm coming up to two, and I'm frothing at  
the bit

PEGGY

(correcting her)  
*Chomping* at the bit

SOPHIE

Chomping and frothing tbh

PEGGY

Yes, but you have a loving boyfriend  
who adores you.

SOPHIE

Who lives in London

PEGGY

Who will be at the wedding this weekend  
and give you a jolly good seeing-to.

SOPHIE

This is true.  
I'm sorry Peggy. I am.  
You deserve a king. Or a prince at the  
very least.

PEGGY

I'd settle for a pauper  
With a really, *really* big. . .heart.

SOPHIE

He's out there.

**EXT. DAY. HOUSE IN WEST CORK**

Sophie's car pulls up to a beautiful house in West Cork. COLM, 30,  
handsome & gentle is standing outside the door. Sophie gets out of the  
car and squeals in excitement. She runs up to meet him and wraps her  
legs around his waist. They kiss.  
Peggy watches them from the car.

**INT. DAY. HOUSE IN WEST CORK**

Colm leads the girls into the house. It's furnished in a farm-house style with luxurious sofas, a big aga, vases of fresh flowers. Peggy takes it all in. She feels both that she shouldn't be there, and that she never wants to leave.

In the living room, four friends are sprawled across the couches drinking tea - CARA and IAN and another couple, JULIA and MARK. PEGGY, COLM, and SOPHIE greet everyone.

SOPHIE

This place is amazing!

CARA

So nice isn't it!

IAN

How was the drive?

PEGGY

Grand. I was just - passenger princess.

SOPHIE

*(correcting Peggy)*

And DJ!

Sorry we're late

JULIA

*(to Sophie)*

Don't worry - Colm snagged you the best room.

Colm beams, proud of his achievement.

SOPHIE

Oh yeah?

COLM

Sea view!

CARA

And Peggy - you'll be in here.

You did bring a sleeping bag?!

Peggy smiles through gritted teeth and nods.

CARA

All the other rooms are doubles so -

COLM

Should we go for a swim?

IAN

Yes! I am *gagging* for a swim.

SOPHIE raises her eyebrow.

PEGGY gives her a stern look.

**EXT. DAY. A BEACH IN WEST CORK**

The gang of friends wiggle out of their clothes and into their swimming togs in a beautifully undignified manner. Hair blows furiously in the wind. Someone's sock makes a run for it and IAN tries to chase it down with his trousers still around his ankles.

Eventually they are ready to run down to the water's edge, squealing as their pale skin makes contact with the frothy waves.

At first they are united in their enjoyment of the ocean, but bit by bit the couples pair up - they cling to each other, splash each other. Peggy looks left and right and sighs, then rolls over onto her back. Above her, the sky is plump with clouds and the water dulls all sound and she feels peaceful.

CUT TO-

**EXT. DAY. THE CAR PARK**

The two cars are parked side-by-side - one with PEGGY, SOPHIE, COLM, the other with IAN, CARA, JULIA, and MARK. The heavens have suddenly opened. There is a torrential downpour.

Everyone looks out fearfully, towels swaddled on their heads, breathing into their hands, shivering.

**INT. DUSK. SOPHIE'S CAR**

The windscreen wipers work furiously to combat the sheets of water. PEGGY sits in the back, head tipped to the rainy window, feeling like a child. Sophie is driving. Colm sits beside her. They argue good naturedly.

COLM

It was that way!

SOPHIE

The map says this way.

COLM

I don't think anyone from Google has ever  
ventured to the buttfuck of West Cork

SOPHIE

They use satellites, Colm!

COLM

Will you look where you're -

We hear a large BANG, as one of the tires hits a stone and bursts.

SOPHIE

Shit.

**EXT. DUSK. A SMALL COUNTRY LANE.**

COLM is attempting to jack up the car while the women look on, holding  
their coats above their heads.

SOPHIE

(yelling)

Nearly got it?

COLM

Almost.

COLM does not want to admit this to them - or to anyone - but he has  
no idea what he's doing. He turns the jack over in his hands, looking  
at it as though it's an artifact from a distant planet. He is getting  
sweaty and panicked. Suddenly, headlights flicker across his face.  
A LAND ROVER DEFENDER pulls up behind the car. From it steps CIAN -  
30, handsome, rugged, dressed in proper out-doorsy attire.  
PEGGY and SOPHIE's jaws drop.

CIAN

Can I help?

**INT. NIGHT. CIAN'S LAND ROVER**

PEGGY sits in the front beside CIAN. She tries to steal a glance at  
him while he's driving. She is particularly taken with his hands.  
He notices her looking. She panics slightly but smiles. He smiles  
back.

**EXT. NIGHT. CIAN'S FAMILY ESTATE**

We see the land rover, towing Sophie's car, pull up in front of a sprawling country manor.

**INT. NIGHT. CIAN'S LAND ROVER**

PEGGY

(aghast)

You live here?

CIAN

My parents live here.

I live in Dublin.

PEGGY

(too quickly)

SO DO I!!!!

CIAN

I'll just grab the stuff from the shed.

(to Colm)

Want to give me a hand?

COLM

Course.

COLM and CIAN exit the car.

SOPHIE

Oh my god.

PEGGY

Oh. My. God.

SOPHIE

His hair?

PEGGY

His hands!

SOPHIE

His arms!

PEGGY

His nose.

SOPHIE  
(agreeing)  
His nose.

PEGGY  
(again for emphasis)  
His nose!

PEGGY  
What do I do?

SOPHIE  
Invite him to the wedding.

PEGGY  
I can't

SOPHIE  
To the afters at least.  
Claudia won't mind. This is an emergency.

PEGGY  
He definitely has a girlfriend.

SOPHIE  
How do you know?

PEGGY  
Did you see him?

SOPHIE  
You don't know if you don't ask.

PEGGY  
But I can't. I'm just a baby.

SOPHIE  
Grow UP. Be a woman.

PEGGY  
But I'm just two little girls in a  
trenchcoat. If I ask him I'll -

The door opens and CIAN sticks his head.

CIAN

Should be ready for you now!

They both smile maniacally.

**EXT. NIGHT. CIAN'S FAMILY ESTATE**

SOPHIE and COLM walk to the car. Before getting in, SOPHIE throws PEGGY a stern look. PEGGY dawdles slightly.

PEGGY

Thank you for stopping.  
That was really nice of you

CIAN

Course. Where's the wedding?

PEGGY

Some hotel.  
I actually hate weddings.  
It's like so over the top.

CIAN

I always find them kinda moving.  
I'm a blubberer!

Peggy whimpers.

Peggy's mouth opens to invite him, but she can't do it.

CIAN

I imagine it's gonna be kinda - all consuming  
But . . . if you do have any time before you go,  
maybe we / could. . .

CIAN (cont.)

. . .get a drink?

PEGGY

Drunk.  
Have a drink with you.  
Sure.

CIAN

Cool.