

EXT. OUTSIDE AN OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

A MAN and a small CART of assorted ROSES stand in front of an office building.

JERRY MOYNIHAN (22) walks out of the office building and catches sight of a CART.

He looks at the roses and reaches into his pocket, graveling for change.

He holds out a few coins for the Man.

The Man takes the change, as Jerry grabs and stares at the ROSES.

Office colleagues PADDY AND MICHAEL KINNANE walk out of the office building and approach Jerry.

PADDY

(Refers to the ROSES)

Ah, Jerry! Those wouldn't be for Kitty Doherty, now would they?

MICHAEL

Ahh, I see now. You goin' to "accidentally" run into her again today?

JERRY

(Embarrassed)

We might be crossing paths...

MICHAEL

Ooh, what's your smooth line this time?

(Mockingly)

Ah, Kitty! Fancy meetin' you here!

Jerry rolls his eyes.

PADDY

Or "Well, isn't this a surprise!"

Paddy and Michael laugh.

JERRY

Alright, cut it out!

PADDY

Ah, c'mon Jerry, we're just having

some craic. But, why are you gawking over a nurse anyway?

MICHAEL
Yeah, nurses know a lot of things.

JERRY
And what's wrong with that?

PADDY
They know too many things. They've seen a lot of things. It's frightful.

Jerry rolls his eyes.

JERRY
Alright, well. Should be gettin' off now!

MICHAEL
Now, hold on, lad. How are you going to explain the roses to Kitty?

JERRY
They're actually not for Kitty. They're for my mother. I'm dropping by the house to give them to her.

PADDY
Oh, is she doing alright?

JERRY
She's grand. She's doing much better. She just gets lonely a lot.

PADDY
And you?

JERRY
(Beat)
Just grand too. Honest.

PADDY
(Beat)
You're a good son, Jer. Don't forget to take time for yourself now.

Jerry nods.

JERRY
Alright. Should be off.

PADDY
Send my best to your mother!

MICHAEL
And send my best to Kitty Doherty!

Paddy and Michael laugh.

Jerry waves to them without looking back.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jerry walks into the hallway of his mother's house holding a bouquet of white ROSES.

His MOTHER sits parallel to him in the LIVING ROOM, sitting in a ROCKING CHAIR by an empty FIREPLACE.

JERRY
Hello, Mother.

MOTHER
Jerry, dear. How was the office?

JERRY
Same old, really.

Jerry hands the ROSES to his mother.

MOTHER
Why, Jer, how lovely! Where on earth did you get these?

JERRY
A woman was selling them outside the office building. Grabbed some on my way out. Thought you might like them.

MOTHER
Jerry, I love them. I always appreciate white roses!

JERRY
That's grand to hear. Unfortunately, I can't stay long.

MOTHER
Well now, Jerry! Where you off to?

JERRY
Was thinkin' about meeting someone for
a bit.

MOTHER
(Surprised)
Oh! You weren't taking me to the
pictures today?

JERRY
(Just now remembering)
Oh, yes! You're right. We will go as
soon as I get back!

MOTHER
Well, don't be too late, Jer!

JERRY
(Smiles)
Am I ever late?

MOTHER
(Rises and walks towards Jerry)
No, you never are, my shining star!

Jerry's mother embraces him.

JERRY
(Resisting)
Mother, if I don't go now, I won't be
back before dark.

MOTHER
Alright, alright. Get on your way then!

Jerry gives his mother a kiss on the cheek, heads for the
door, and leaves.

CUT TO:

INT. POST OFFICE - DAY

A moderately crowded POST OFFICE.

Jerry dashes to a PAYPHONE sitting in the corner.

He tentatively grabs the phone and begins to dial.

The voice of a RECEPTIONIST is heard from the phone as Jerry
speaks.

RECEPTIONIST
 (Over the phone)
 Good afternoon.

JERRY
 (On the phone)
 Hi, uh, is Miss Kitty Doherty in
 today?

RECEPTIONIST
 Why yes, sir, may I ask who may be
 asking for her?

JERRY
 (Laughs nervously)
 I-I'm afraid I'm a stranger to Miss
 Doherty.

RECEPTIONIST
 Okay--

JERRY
 (Abruptly)
 --I'm actually just delivering a
 message for a friend of hers.

Jerry rolls his eyes at his response.

RECEPTIONIST
 Alright, sir, I'll give you over to
 her.

Jerry purposefully hits his head with the phone repeatedly
 and begins to mutter to himself.

JERRY
 (Aggravated)
 Moynihan! You're mad! You're lucky I'm
 not just calling an asylum for you!

KITTY
 (Over the phone)
 Hello? This is Kitty. Who is this?

Startled by the sound of Kitty's voice, Jerry clumsily drops
 the PHONE. He staggers to pick it up as Kitty's voice is
 still heard over the PHONE.

KITTY (CONT'D)
 (Alarmed)
 Who is calling, please?

Jerry purses his lips and shuts his eyes, tightly, before answering:

JERRY
 (Clears throat)
 Yes, I uh--
 (In a French accent)
 Who is dat speaking, please?

KITTY
 This is Kitty Doherty...

JERRY
 I am Monsieur Bertrand, I-I am afraid
 I have the wrong number. I am so
 sorry.

Jerry hangs up the PHONE, forcefully, and dashes out of the POST OFFICE.

CUT TO:

EXT. SMALL TOWN/RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD - AFTERNOON

The sun hovers above green HILLSIDES, HOUSES, and FIELDS of white FLOWERS and LIVESTOCK.

Jerry walks up and down the same RIVER ROAD multiple times with his hands in his POCKETS.

Hours later, Jerry wanders down the ROAD, while crowds of young MEN and WOMEN are relaxing along the RIVERSIDE.

Jerry catches sight of a MAN and a WOMAN walking out into the STREET, holding hands.

The Man and Woman approach a stopped TRAM several feet away. The Woman steps on first, as the Man follows.

As the tram doors close, Kitty runs up to the tram with a BAG in hand. She waves for the DOORS to open.

Jerry sees her and perks up.

As the DOORS reopen for Kitty, Jerry calls for her.

JERRY
 (Yells)
 Kitty!

Kitty steps on the TRAM, unable to hear Jerry.

Jerry throws off his HAT and waves it.

JERRY

Kitty!

Still unable to hear or see Jerry, Kitty sits towards the back of the Tram.

She faces away from the WINDOW.

Jerry runs up to the Tram just as it starts to leave.

Jerry picks up speed.

The Tram moves and halts at multiple locations as Jerry struggles to keep up.

Kitty is seen through the WINDOW of the TRAM, turning pages of a BOOK.

Jerry lags behind, staggering and losing breath as the Tram moves farther and farther away from him.

AFTER SEVERAL MINUTES, the Tram stops several feet away from Jerry, up a gradual hill.

As Jerry halts and attempts to catch his breath, Kitty steps off while putting her BOOK in her BAG.

Kitty is seen on the horizon, walking up to a little HOUSE on the hill.

Jerry, still breathing heavy, watches Kitty from afar as she knocks then enters the House.

Jerry's shoulders drop at a sigh.

He sets off towards the House.

CUT TO:

EXT. RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD - MUCH LATER

The sun sets over the HOUSE on the hill.

Jerry hovers around, walking back and forth, checking the front Door each time he passes.

After checking the Door, he runs his fingers through his hair, smoothing it.

He then breathes into his hand and smells it, testing his breath.

He then sits on a BENCH nearby.

Jerry sits anxiously and jumps at the sound of Paddy Kinnane walking up beside him.

PADDY

(Chuckles)

Hallo, Jerry. What are you doing here?

JERRY

Uh, just waiting for a chap I had a date with, Paddy.

PADDY

Looks more as if you were waiting on an ole doll to me. Still waters run deep. When are you supposed to be meeting him?

JERRY

(Unsure)

Uh, half eight.

PADDY

Half eight? Tis nearly nine now.

JERRY

Ah, well, he's a most unpunctual fellow. Should turn up alright though.

PADDY

(Sitting)

I may as well wait with you. You might find yourself stuck by the end of the evening. There's people in this town that have no consideration anymore.

Jerry nods, unsure of what to do.

Both men sit and wait on the bench. An uncomfortable silence arises.

JERRY

Ah, to hell with him! I won't bother waiting.

PADDY

You alright there, Jer?

JERRY

Oh, sure. It only struck me this minute that I have another appointment up the Western road. If you'll excuse me now, Paddy, I'll tell you all about it another time.

Jerry runs off in haste, as Paddy sits with a puzzled grin.

CUT TO:

EXT. TRAM STOP - EVENING

The sky is now a pale blue, but still bright despite the absence of the sun.

Jerry wanders to a Tram Stop a few blocks outside the House.

Pacing again, Jerry looks around the street for signs of Kitty.

Several Trams enter and leave the STOP, various people getting off and on.

MINUTES LATER, a POLICEMAN enters holding a CANE.

As Jerry paces anxiously, the POLICEMAN glances over suspiciously at Jerry, twirling his Cane.

Awkwardly, Jerry waves and sits down on a bench a few feet from the stop.

Jerry sighs as he stares at the Moon.

EXT. TRAM STOP - AN HOUR LATER

Jerry lies on the bench. After a moment, he gets up and begins to walk.

The sound of Jerry's lethargic strides collide with the hurried sound of a woman's heels.

Jerry looks up to see Kitty walking briskly with a BAG over her shoulder, while pinning a BOOK to her chest.

Jerry jumps, and starts to follow her.

Trying to be coy, Jerry struggles to keep up with Kitty's pace and begins to call for her:

JERRY
(Calling)
Kitty! Kitty! For God's sake, wait!

Kitty turns around and peers at Jerry.

KITTY
(Astonished)
Jerry Moynihan? What are you doing
here?

Jerry puts his hands on his knees, trying to catch his
breath. He tries to speak, but can't seem to articulate.

KITTY (CONT'D)
What's wrong? Are you out of your mind
or what?

JERRY
I just--I just haven't seen you for
weeks!

KITTY
Yes, I wasn't out. What about it?

JERRY
(Desperately)
I thought it was something I said!

KITTY
What was it?

JERRY
(Hesitates)
Well, I don't know! I wasn't sure.

KITTY
(Confused)
Well, whatever it was, it wasn't that.
I've had to tend to my mother quite a
bit.

JERRY
(Relieved)
Why? Is there something wrong with
her?

KITTY
Oh no. She's just been making a fuss
lately.

JERRY
A fuss about what?

KITTY
Well, about you...

JERRY
What did I do?

KITTY
You didn't do anything! People have
just been talking about us...
(Rambles)
My mother's head is full of nonsense
and I know she married a commercial
traveler herself, but still you
needn't be so superior.

JERRY
But what does she have against me?

KITTY
She thinks we're doing a tangle!
Suppose she doesn't think you worthy
of a great-great-grand niece of Daniel
O'Connell.

JERRY
And that's all?

KITTY
(Giggles)
I know! She has no sense! And anyway,
she has no reason to think I'm telling
lies. Cissy and I always had fellows
that we spooned all over the shop
under her very nose! So, I don't see
why she thinks I'm trying to hide
anything--

Jerry, stunned, begins to laugh, uncomfortably.

KITTY (CONT'D)
--of course, I had no sense back then.
You were the first fellow I met that
treated me properly. I told her I
liked you better than any fellow I had
ever knew, but that I had grown out of
that kind of thing.

JERRY
And what did she say to that?

KITTY
(Hesitant)
I told you she was silly.

JERRY
Go on! Tell me, I want to know.

KITTY
Well, she said you were a deep,
designing guttersnipe that knew
exactly how to get round feather-pated
idiots like me.
(Beat)
You see, it's quite hopeless. The
woman is common. She doesn't
understand.

JERRY
Oh, God. I only wish she was right.

KITTY
Why's that?

JERRY
Because then I would have some chance
with you.

KITTY
(Beat)
To tell you the truth, I thought you
were a bit keen at first, but then I
wasn't sure...when you didn't kiss me
or anything I mean...

JERRY
(Beat)
God. To think what I've been through
in the past few weeks!

KITTY
(Bites lip)
I know. I was a bit fed up, too.

Both are silent for a short while.

After a long pause, Kitty breaks the silence:

KITTY (CONT'D)

You sure you mean it?

JERRY

I tell you, I was about to throw myself into the river!

KITTY

(Laughs)

Well, what good would that be!

Jerry is silent. Kitty looks down in slight embarrassment. She looks up again and stares at Jerry.

She moves closer to him, as if waiting to be kissed.

Jerry looks away.

KITTY

Jerry?

Suddenly, bells are heard from a nearby bell tower. The hour has struck.

JERRY

(Realizing)

I have to go.

Jerry takes off in the opposite direction.

Kitty stands still, holding her book tightly, her gaze still on Jerry.

Jerry runs off, not looking back.

As the bells continue to chime, Jerry breathes a huge sigh.

He then runs off into the distance as the town lights up.

CUT TO:

EXT/INT. JERRY'S MOTHER'S HOUSE - MUCH LATER

Jerry runs up to his mother's front porch.

The front door is ajar.

As Jerry enters a dark LIVING ROOM in spite of the lit FIREPLACE where his Mother sits.

Jerry can't seem to make her out in the darkness.

JERRY

Mum?

MOTHER

Well, since it's a bit late to see the pictures, I suppose you'll have a cup of tea?

JERRY

I'm so sorry, we ran a bit later than I thought.

MOTHER

You frightened me. I didn't know what happened to you.

JERRY

I lost track of time.

MOTHER

Well, what kept you all?

JERRY

(Sarcastic)

Oh, what would you think? Drinking and black guarding as usual.

Jerry's Mother is in disbelief. She stands there, striking Jerry with a cold gaze. All that's to be heard is the crackling of the fire.

Jerry becomes unsettled and upset.

JERRY (CONT'D)

God Almighty! A fellow can have no life in his own house!

Jerry storms out of the room and goes up the STAIRS and into:

INT. JERRY'S BEDROOM - SAME TIME

Jerry feels for a MATCHBOX inside of his DRAWER. Upon finding it, he lights a CANDLE which sits on the BEDSIDE TABLE.

Jerry sits on the edge of his BED, face to the floor.

Jerry's Mother is heard from outside the door.

MOTHER

(Faintly)

Jerry, shall I bring you up your cup?

JERRY

(Calls)

I don't want it now, thanks.

Footsteps are heard coming up the stairs.

After a pause, a "clink" of a TEACUP is heard outside the door. Jerry's Mother sets the tea on the hall TABLE.

A muffled sigh is heard, followed by footsteps down the stairs.

Jerry lies on his side, facing away from the door.

He stares out the WINDOW beside his Bed.

The window shows a bright, pale Moon.

Jerry stares at it for a while, as the moon's silhouette morphs into a figure of a human head:

FADE TO:

INT. RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD/CHURCH - EVENING

Jerry stares at Kitty. He leans in to kiss her.

As Jerry leans in, Kitty shuts her eyes.

After a moment, Kitty opens her eyes and transforms into Jerry's mother, who puts on a troubled, offended face (as if Jerry has slapped her).

Jerry looks at his mother in horror.

As Jerry stands frozen, a Tram runs speedily behind Jerry, blocking the residential neighborhood from earlier that day.

As the TRAM moves from one point to the next, Jerry now stands before a STAINED GLASS CHURCH WINDOW above a row of PEWS.

Jerry runs up the aisle leading up to an extravagant ALTAR, decorated with WHITE ROSES, and an elaborate CRUCIFIX hanging above it.

As Jerry approaches the altar, he notices a CONFESSIONAL BOX

tucked away in the corner of the church.

Beside the BOX is a PAINTING of a man weeping at Jesus' feet.

Jerry stares at the PAINTING.

After a moment, Jerry enters the BOX, hesitantly. It is a tight space with a modestly carved CHAIR, sitting beside a SCREEN.

Believing there is a PRIEST on the other side, Jerry begins to speak, before he is interrupted by the PRIEST.

PRIEST

(A woman's voice)

What brings you here so late, my son?

Jerry squints, troubled by the familiarity of the voice.

JERRY

Pardon?

PRIEST

How's things with you?

Realizing, Jerry peers into the window.

He then punches the SCREEN WINDOW. It shatters. As Jerry struggles to pull his hand out, he sees his Mother sitting on the other side of the Window, staring at Jerry.

Jerry opens his eyes. He feels the SHEETS of his BED below him.

He is now back in his ROOM. It is the middle of the NIGHT.

Jerry crosses to the DOOR.

CUT TO:

INT. MOTHER'S BEDROOM - LATER

Jerry opens the DOOR as it creaks.

Jerry peers through the door, seeing his mother.

Upon seeing her, he opens the DOOR with one swift motion.

JERRY

Mother. Are you awake?

MOTHER
(Gradually)
Yes, Jerry. What is it?

JERRY
(Sobs)
I'm--I'm so sorry.

MOTHER
(Startled)
Oh child! Child! What are you crying
about, my little boy?

Jerry crouches down and weeps at his mother's feet, sobbing intensifies.

Jerry's Mother gets on his level and holds him tightly while rocking him.

MOTHER (CONT'D)
Oh, my storeen bawn! My little man!

Jerry's Mother cradles him as he sobs into her chest.

MOTHER (CONT'D)
(Whispers)
My storeen bawn, my little man.

Crying and comforting continues as the scene FADES OUT.

FADE TO SELECTED CREDITS.

END OF FILM.