

BLIND SPOT

by

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INT. PUB - GALWAY, IRELAND - DAY

Mícheál enters the pub and stands in front of FATHER O'CONNOR, staring.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
What do you keep fuckin' starin'  
at?

MÍCHEÁL (CLEARS THROAT)  
Nothin' Father, I need confession.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
I don't do confession at the pub.  
We need to be in a house of God  
fer that!

MÍCHEÁL  
But Father, it's a pressing issue.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
Well, go to another priest. I'm  
off duty.

MÍCHEÁL  
Father you're the only one I can  
trust.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
You must be shittin' me.

MÍCHEÁL  
I only need a minute or two of  
your time and I'll be done.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
You're a real f\*cker. Let's go  
outback.

Both men walk outside to the back of the pub.  
Alright, out with it.

MÍCHEÁL  
Well, it's like this...I've done a  
pretty bad thing.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
Out with it boy, I ain't got all  
day!

MÍCHEÁL  
Shit. Alright. I smacked me mom.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
What's that you said?

MÍCHEÁL  
I smacked me mother.

Father O'Connor smacks Mícheál up against the brick wall.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
Like that?! (smacks him again) Or  
like that?!

MÍCHEÁL  
Alright, alright! Jesus Father, I  
come to you for forgiveness of my  
sin.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
There are things that the good  
Lord advises me to handle a  
particular way!

Father O'Connor smacks Mícheál again. Mícheál's lip bleeds.

MÍCHEÁL  
Father! If you just listen to me,  
please.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
The only one who can forgive you  
is your mother! You are  
despicable. I don't ever want to  
see the likes of you again!

MÍCHEÁL  
Father, please, wait! You don't  
understand. There was a prowler  
come into the house during the  
night and I fought him off me  
mother but in the midst of the  
fight she was smacked a lick from  
me own hand. It was meant for the  
prowler but it caught her instead  
and now she thinks I deliberately  
smacked her when in fact I would  
never do such a thing. I love me  
Mother. I'd never raise a finger  
and that's for any woman that is.

Father O'Connor smacks Mícheál.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
That's for making me smack ya for  
no reason. Why do you come for  
forgiveness?

MÍCHEÁL  
 For the accident of it, of course.  
 (beat) Am I forgiven?

FATHER O'CONNOR  
 You're a schmuck. Where's mom?

MÍCHEÁL  
 Well, that's just it. We can't  
 find her.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
 What do you mean you can't find  
 her? Where has she gone?

MÍCHEÁL  
 When the police came to take the  
 prowler, she was gone. I couldn't  
 find her. Me whole family is out  
 there looking.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
 Have you spoken to Ned Finley?

MÍCHEÁL  
 I'm looking for him, too?

FATHER O'CONNOR  
 He's inside the pub.

MÍCHEÁL  
 Is he now?

Father O'Connor gestures for them to go back inside the  
 pub. There sits INSPECTOR NED FINLEY.

FATHER O'CONNOR  
 Ned, we have a situation.

NED  
 What situation is that?

FATHER O'CONNOR  
 Schmuck lost him mom.

NED (TO MÍCHEÁL)  
 How did you loose your mom?

FATHER O'CONNOR  
 The stupid bastard smacked his own  
 mom and she ran off in shame.

Ned smacks Mícheál.

NED

Ya smackin' you're mom around?!

MÍCHEÁL

No, it ain't true! Chrissakes!  
Father tell him!

FATHER O'CONNOR

He smacked his own mother but  
claims it was a blind spot.

NED

Blind spot, eh?

FATHER O'CONNOR

Said there was a f\*ckin' prowler  
on the loose. There was a squabble  
and the mother caught one.

A single filed line of men quickly forms. Doyle leads the pack.

DOYLE

What's this I hear about the  
schmuck hittin' his ma?

NED

This fuckin' guy hit his ma.

Doyle smacks Mícheál.

MÍCHEÁL

For fucksake, ya know! I ain't hit  
me mother and the next bastard  
that wants to hit me for hittin'  
me ma, is gonna fight to the  
death.

FATHER O'CONNOR

Pipe down! (to entire bar) He hit  
his mother by mistake is  
all...supposedly.

NED

Supposedly better be correct. (to  
Mícheál) Fucker.

The entire bar of men sigh and go back to their seats.

MÍCHEÁL

Just wanted to ask if you can help  
me family find me mom.

NED

I'm off duty.

MÍCHEÁL

But you're the Inspector.

NED

Right now I ain't inspecting  
nothin' but this here pint.

MÍCHEÁL

We need your help.

NED

Well it's a tough and hard shit  
ain't it, boy? Go back home and  
wait for your mother and apologize  
for what you done. I will come by  
later to check up.

MÍCHEÁL

Can you put a word out there to  
the other Garda?

NED

Are you telling me how to do my  
job?

FATHER O'CONNOR

The boy's just a little confused  
is all Ned. Run along now Mícheál.  
Listen to what Finley told ya.  
We'll all do our best to find your  
mother. Surely, she can't be that  
far.

MÍCHEÁL

I'll do what you said Father  
because you're the Father but I  
want to find me ma.

FATHER O'CONNOR

Go!

MÍCHEÁL

But I'm forgiven, right Father?

FATHER O'CONNOR

Say two Our Father's and five Hail  
Mary's on your way back home and  
straighten it out with your ma.  
I'll put a word in with the good  
Lord on your behalf.

MÍCHEÁL

Thank you, Father! Thank you, Ned!

Mícheál exits pub.

Out comes Mícheál's Mother from behind a door.

MOTHER

I've given that boy a good start.

FATHER O'CONNOR

He's all worked up.

MOTHER

That will teach him.

NED

Aye, you done good, Mary.

MOTHER

Aye.

FATHER O'CONNOR

He's a good lad.