

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

We see a pill bottle on the table. It's surrounded by tissues and cold and flu medicine. SAOIRSE picks up the pill bottle. She is in her early twenties, has slightly greasy brown hair, and is wearing baggy clothes. She's standing in the living room of her apartment. It's a dark room as the curtains are drawn. It's connected to the open plan kitchen.

SAOIRSE

Shit.

We see her put the pill bottle back on the table angrily. She picks up her phone and begins to ring someone.

SAOIRSE

Hey, I need a favour. Yeah I ran out again... I obviously didn't mean to, I just forgot! Right, thanks, love you too.

She picks up the cold and flu medicine and takes two pills. Saoirse begins to pace the room. She takes a deep breath and sits down. We see her knee shaking quickly. She turns on the television. The news is playing a clip from the Taoiseach's announcement regarding COVID-19 restrictions.

TAOISEACH

I urge you all to stay in place for a short while longer. The end is in sight as the vaccines are being rolled out. We mustn't let our guard down now.

Saoirse leans forward and puts her head in her hands.

SAOIRSE

I'm sick of this.

She turns off the television and stands up. She glances at the clock on the wall and sees it's moving much faster than usual. She shakes her head and looks back at the clock. It's now moving normally. She walks over to a drawer and pulls out a lock box. She sits back down and opens the box. We do not see what's inside. She takes a deep breath and starts counting whatever is inside the box.

SAOIRSE

One... two... three... four... five.

She closes her eyes, takes a deep breath and closes the box. She puts it away under the coffee table. She picks up her phone again and starts texting. The text reads "It's urgent, can you pick it up now?". The response reads "I'm coming, I'll be there soon". Saoirse puts her phone down and leans back staring at the roof. We hear her SIGH and she stands up. She walks to the kitchen area and pauses. we hear a KNOCK on the front door. She looks over at the door and walks toward it. When she opens the door, there's nobody there. She looks around for a second and then comes back inside. She closes the door behind her.

CUT TO:

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Saoirse is sitting on the couch playing Playstation. She gets visibly frustrated and quickly puts the controller down and turns off the television. She picks up her phone and starts scrolling through headlines. They are all Covid-19 related. She SIGHS and puts the phone down.

SAOIRSE

Right... Dinner. Let's go.

Saoirse stands up and walks to the kitchen. She puts her phone down on the counter. She takes out the chopping board, a knife, and an onion and places them beside her phone. After chopping half of it, her phone lights up with a text. It reads "Are you watching the Taoiseach's new announcement?" She walks to the sitting room and turns on the television again. We see the room illuminate with the light of the television and hear the Taoiseach speaking.

TAOISEACH

I once again urge you all to stay in place. By staying in our homes whenever possible we will limit the spread as the vaccines are being distributed. This will expediate the process and bring an end to these trying times.

There's a short pause.

TAOISEACH

We know you're sick Saoirse.

Saoirse GASPS and has a look of disbelief on her face.

TAOISEACH

We're coming. We'll be there soon.

SAOIRSE

(To herself)

What the fuck?

TAOISEACH

We're coming to get you Saoirse.

We see the television screen is only showing static. She quickly reaches for the remote to turn it off. She walks over to a drawer and pulls out a lock box. She sits back down, pulls her keys out and opens the box. We do not see what's inside. She takes a deep breath and starts counting whatever is inside the box.

SAOIRSE

One... two... three... four... five.

She closes the box and puts it away. She picks up her phone and dials a number. She waits for a minute but we hear the phone go to voicemail. She gets up quickly and walks back to the kitchen. We see the onion on the chopping board is now uncut again. She puts her phone down on the kitchen counter, pauses, and then starts chopping the onion again, more frantically this time.

UNKNOWN PERSON

(Whisper)

They're coming.

Saoirse winces and stops cutting the onion suddenly.

SAOIRSE

Please! Stop! It's not real.

She continues to cut the onion even faster. The whispers continue as she cuts the onion faster and faster.

UNKNOWN PERSON

They're coming for you. They're going to take you away.

SAOIRSE

Ow! Fuck!

Saoirse stops cutting, grabs her finger and walks quickly to the bathroom. She holds her hand under the tap and we see a lot of blood washing down the sink. She opens up the cabinet in the bathroom and grabs plasters. When she tries to put the

plaster on she sees that there's no cut. She stares at her hand for a moment and her head drops.

SAOIRSE

Come on!

She stares at herself in the mirror.

SAOIRSE

You know what's real and what isn't.

She paces back into the sitting room quickly. She pauses as she stares into the sitting room. The coffee table is completely covered in writing saying "THEY'RE COMING". She pauses and looks horrified. She runs to the kitchen to grab a cloth and starts erasing it frantically. She begins to cry and before she's fully erased the writing she grabs the lockbox, opens it and begins counting again.

SAOIRSE

One... two... three...

Her phone begins to ring loudly from the kitchen and she stops counting. As she stands up she leans on the remote and turns the television on. It plays loudly.

TAOISEACH

We're nearly there Saoirse. We're coming.

We hear the front door being opened. Everything goes quiet. Saoirse pauses and looks towards the door.

UNKNOWN PERSON

(Whisper)

They're here.

Saoirse stands up quickly and runs to grab the knife from the kitchen. She stands in front of the door to the hall.

SAOIRSE

(Whispers)

Please go away, please go away, don't take me.

She holds the knife in front of her and the door swings open. She runs towards the door with the knife in front of her. We hear a body hit the floor. We see a pill bottle roll into the room and she slowly walks backwards with blood on her hands. Her mouth is wide open and she begins to cry. She collapses to the floor sitting against the cupboard. She buries her

head in her hands, hyperventilating.

CUT TO BLACK