

SEND ME A POSTCARD

By

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Bring me back to you

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1. INT - KITCHEN DAY

LILY (10-12 Northern) sits eating cereal entertained by the commotion around her. We pull out to reveal KEVIN ( 30-40s Lily's father) half dressed chaotically moving around the kitchen talking rapidly.

KEVIN

What goes in a toaster? Bread, not toast. No, most people if you ask will say toast but it's not, it's bread. Push all the way down to the click. Then what's next?

LILY

Butter!

KEVIN

Butter or Jam, but only Jam on a Saturday and today iiis...

He looks at a CALENDER full of **notes**, each day distinctly marked off with a large **black cross**.

KEVIN (CONT)

Wednesday. So butter it is. Always put the lid back on. Never leave it out else it gets soft. Waiting for the toast.

Kevin sits at the kitchen table with a DADS JOKE BOOK. Lily picks up her POLARIOD CAMERA, her Dad poses playfully as she takes a **photograph**.

KEVIN (CONT)

What do you call cheese that isn't yours?

KEVIN AND LILY

NANCHO CHEESE!

Lily writes the **date** at the bottom of the developing picture.

KEVIN

What do you call a man with no shins?  
TONY! What do you call a man with no arms or legs in a swimming pool? BOB!  
What do you call a man with no arms or legs in a paper bag? RUSSELL!

Lily laughs at her dad's enjoyment.

KEVIN (CONT)

Here we go, here we go. What do you call a man with no shins?

Lily lets him answer.

KEVIN (CONT)

Tony!

A FIRE ALARM breaks the moment as smoke rises from the toaster.

LILY

MUM!

KEVIN

WOOP WOOP, that's the sound of da Police.

Theresa ( MUM 30/40s) runs in.

THERESA

What are you doing! I *told* you to wait for me. ( turning to Lily) Quick, get the back door. What on earth were you thinking!

LILY

Dad wanted to do it.

Theresa manages to stop the alarm while Kevin sits still with his joke book.

THERESA

Kevin, where are your trousers?

KEVIN

You didn't put them out for me. What do call a man with no shins?

Theresa stands **exhausted**.

THERESA

I'll get them for you.

KEVIN

Can I just say Lily just how absolutely gorgeous your mother looks today. Doesn't see? Like the day I married her.

Hearing this stops Theresa - feeling a hard lump of emotion.

KEVIN

Come here beautiful.

Theresa and Kevin share a kiss. Kevin's hand begins to rise up Theresa's dress.

THERESA

Kevin, don't. Stop it!

KEVIN

Come on, I'll be quick I promise. Look what you've done to me.

He holds his erection and tries to take her hand down to it. Lily sits awkwardly.

THERESA

I said no!

Kevin **erupts** into a rage.

KEVIN

For fucks sake!

(Pointing at Lily)

It's because of her isn't it! She's always here. Why is she ALWAYS here!!

THERESA

Kevin stop right now!

He storms out **shouting**. Lily sits solemnly - she's seen this behaviour before.

LILY

Will dad ever come back?

These words hit Theresa hard.

THERESA

He's is back sweetheart. He's just -different. And as a family have got to stick together and help him, okay?

Kevin can be heard banging through the house.

THERESA (CONT)

Right, Go on you'll be late for school.

Theresa leaves as Lily gets ready. The fridge is littered with Hospital appointments and a "PROMPT CARD" which reads:

**MY NAME IS KEVIN HARGREAVES, I LIVE AT 9 MAPLE AVE, MY WIFE IS THERESA, MY DAUGHTER IS LILY. MY PHONE NUMBER IS 01253 390453.**

Amongst the stuff is a family seaside holiday **photograph**.

KEVIN (O.S)

I'm sick of this, you're always  
telling me what to do.

THERESA (O.S)

Love, just calm down it's alright. Can  
you just sit for a minute.

The shouting continues through the house.

Impulsively Lily grabs the photo and empties her Dad's pockets taking his **wallet**. Picking up her camera as she leaves.

LILY

Bye!

Kevin suddenly stops shouting.

KEVIN

(light heartedly)  
Send me a postcard.

The door slams.

2 EXT. - STREET DAY

Lily walks towards a busy bus stop pushing through the crowd she takes off her school tie. No school today.

3. INT - TRAIN DAY

Holding the family photograph Lily looks out to see the tip of **Blackpool Tower** emerging between the buildings. She takes a **photograph**.

4. EXT - BLACKPOOL - DAY

Cut scenes between various locations as Lily revisits places she's been:

Walking through an **arcade** - Happy families and two penny machines. - Her favourite. She takes a **photograph**.

CUT TO:

Squeezing too much tomato sauce on a tray of chips - Her mum would never let her do that. She takes a **photograph**.

CUT TO:

Watching the **Roller-coaster** from the promenade. She takes a **photograph**.

CUT TO:

Holding an **Ice Cream** she walks along the promenade, Seagulls gather around her and she playfully screams back at the them.

Her ice-cream **falls** to the floor, She watches as the Seagulls swoop in to eat it - *an unpleasant metaphor as to how Lily feels about her family being picked apart.*

CUT TO:

Sitting on the beach steps at SUNSET, holding the empty cone. She takes a final **photograph**.

Lining up the photos she writes a memory on each one - Eg. **YOU'RE SCARED OF ROLLARCOASTERS BUT PRETEND YOUR NOT** and stuffs them into her backpack.

4. EXT - BLACKPOOL - LATE EVENING

Looking up at a brightly lit Blackpool Tower she takes a last **photograph**.

Tourists begin to fill the streets as a group of drunk men suddenly grab her camera.

LILY

Oi! Give it back!

The men throw the camera to each other. One takes a photo down his trousers.

LILY

(distressed)

NO! Give it back! You're wasting them!

DRUNK MAN

Alright, alright calm down I was only

playing.

LILY  
(Grabbing it back)  
It's not yours!

DRUNK MAN  
Jesus Christ, I was only having a  
laugh.

Gathering her things she runs through the streets to the station, its **closed**. Tears run down her face as she ducks into a side street hiding in a doorway.

CUT TO:

5. EXT - DOORWAY - DAY

Lily lies asleep. We hear keys jingling as MATILDA (50s Trans Woman / Liverpudlian) approaches.

MATILDA  
Oh Sweet Jesus, not again. Look, I  
told you I don't mind you being here  
but you gotta move on by the morning.

Matilda steps over her to open up her bar DIRTY BLONDES.

**Moments later** she comes out with a coffee for her squatter.

MATILDA (CONT)  
Here - have this then you've got to  
go.

Pulling back Lily's hood.

MATILDA (CONT)  
Oh Sweetheart, What are you doing out  
here?

Lily jumps up.

MATILDA (CONT)  
It's okay, I'm not going to hurt you.  
Have you been out here all night?  
(Lily nods)  
You must be freezing.  
(Matilda pauses not sure what to  
do)  
Look, why don't you come inside, get  
warmed up then we can see what we're

going to do with you.

**(Lily refuses to move)**

Okay, but I was going to make my famous hot chocolate with marshmallows and the pot holds two cups, but I guess I'll have to have both. Oh well, bully for me ay.

Matilda enters the Bar leaving Lily.

6. INT - DIRTY BLONDES BAR

Matilda makes sure Lily can see her making the Hot Chocolate. Slowly the door opens.

Lily sits as an enormous Hot Chocolate is placed in front of her.

MATILDA

So, You have a name?

**(Lily is silent)**

Cause I should know who I'm sending the bill to for sleeping on my premises.

Lily brings out her dad's wallet.

MATILDA (CONT)

Oh don't be silly, I was just pulling your leg. That's a very grown up wallet. You steal it?

LILY

Borrowed it.

MATILDA

And does the person who owns it know you "borrowed it"?

LILY

Dad won't know it's gone. I was going to put it back but I couldn't get home and now Mum's gonna hate me.

Lily starts crying. Matilda grabs some tissues.

MATILDA

Ay now, we're not going to have any tears in here. They taste awful in Chocolate. When you've wiped all that snot off your face you can tell me



your name.

LILY  
(composing herself)  
Lily Hargreaves.

MATILDA  
And what a delightful name. I'm Tilly  
- Or Matilda - or in your case Mother  
Theresa.

LILY  
That's my mums name.

Matilda reaches out to shake hands. Lily holds out her hand which still holds a squashed ice-cream cone.

LILY (CONT)  
It was supposed to be for my Dad, but  
it's squashed now.

MATILDA  
Well turns out your lucks changed  
girl, I reckon I've got some ice cream  
in the back there somewhere.

Palming the **wallet** Matilda goes through to the kitchen. Inside she finds the family photograph and a laminated PROMPT CARD.

**MY NAME IS KEVIN HARGREAVES, I LIVE AT 9 MAPLE AVE, MY WIFE IS THERESA, MY DAUGHTER IS LILY. MY PHONE NUMBER IS 01253 390453.**

Lily is lining her photographs on the table.

Matilda returns with an ice cream in a cone, she manages to slip the wallet back.

MATILDA (CONT)  
Here, you are. And it's not that crap  
stuff you get on the prom either.  
(**Looking at the photos**)  
Well now, don't we have a regular  
Dorothea Lange.  
(**Lily looks puzzled**)  
Never mind. Right, get your stuff  
together.

LILY  
Where are we going?

MATILDA

Well, you're not telling me this collection's complete. You're missing our best feature. Come on, chop chop.

Lily springs into life and follows her

7. EXT - BEACH SANDS DUNES- DAY

Close up of the Polaroid Camera, it lowers to reveal Matilda's face. She has taken a picture of Lily on the sand.

MATILDA

See what did I tell you, now it's a complete collection. Enough to make Saatchi wobble that.

LILY

You talk funny

MATILDA

(amused)

Yeah, I've been told that before. I guess it's one of the reasons that bought me here really. You can be anyone you want in Blackpool - The land of sequins and cigarettes! What about you?

LILY

Mum said photos are supposed to help Dad. Says he's like he's a jigsaw with pieces missing and they help him remember stuff. (Pause) They used to bring me here a lot.

MATILDA

What happened?

LILY

An accident. Mum said that summit popped in his brain and now he can't remember things, he acts weird sometimes. Sometimes he doesn't know who I am.

MATILDA

I hear you girl. Sometimes I think my dad doesn't know me either. But you know what can't ever be forgotten. Ever, ever?

(Lily shrugs)  
 Love. I know your Dad and your Mum  
 love you very much and I bet that even  
 though you've scared them to death  
 coming on your little escapade they're  
 going to be so proud of what an  
 amazing young lady you are, and what  
 you wanted to do for your Dad.

LILY  
 Does your Dad love you?

MATILDA  
 (thoughtful)  
 In his own way.

The moment is interrupted by shouting. A smiling Kevin  
 appears across the sands dunes waving **enthusiastically**.

KEVIN  
 Lily!

A beaming Kevin skips towards them. Theresa appears looking  
**frantic** behind him.

THERESA  
 LILY!!!

She runs and takes Lily in her arms.

THERESA  
 Why did you do that! We were so  
 worried about you!

LILY  
 I'm sorry! I wanted to take these for  
 Dad.

Lily takes out all of the **photographs**. Theresa is shocked but  
 Kevin is delighted with them. She scoops Lily in her arms

THERESA  
 Oh sweetheart.

KEVIN  
 Come on, last one ins a rotten egg!

Kevin takes off his shoes as he bolts to the ocean.

KEVIN (CONT)

Lily come on!

They burst into laughter at Kevin. Lily looks to her mother for permission. Theresa nods and Lily runs to her dad in the water.

Matilda and Theresa are left sitting on the sand.

THERESA

Thank you...

MATILDA

(Extending her hand)

Tilly. You've got a beautiful family.

Theresa looks out at Kevin and Lily playing. These words **hit** her emotionally. It's not the family she is used to but it's hers, she's happy, she nods and smiles.

THE END