

Ireland The Directors Cut

Considering my posts, and internet connection was sporadic at best there I decided to write a bunch of vignettes that came from my diaries there. Enjoy!

Loneliness-

Cork - For the Sake of Judgement

A bum asks for change, she's middle aged, and drunk. She's begging for coins from the passers by.

When she gets to me, I give her a euro. She seizes my hand and says "Oh thank you son, may the lord bless you and keep you. May you be saved..."

I give her shoulder a squeeze "There is no saving me sister."

She lets me go to walk back to the hostel.

Dublin - Historical Inebriation

There are 4 bottle of Bullmers at my feet two are empty and a third is about to join their ranks. It's 3 am, the bars are closed the after hours places are empty, the streets are quiet, it's just me and the river liffey.

I rip out a page of my diary, and write "Dear New York. I'll be home soon, I miss you. Sincerely your misbegotten son."

I kill the last bottle stuff the note in, and recapped it. I throw it into the river.

The bottle goes the wrong way.

Inishboffin - Mountain of Goners

I make my way to Cleggan to make it to an island that the natives aren't even sure exists. I put my gear down on the docks, and light up.

A bathtub that someone painted red to cover its rust up pulls in. I toss my bags in and flick my cigarette into the white froth that the boat is struggling to stay afloat in.

I stand in on the bow, as the other passengers duck into the cabin. When we make landfall, I grab my stuff and make it into a hostel. Out from the deck I can see mountains

made from granite, bog, and marble. I look for the tallest one and I begin an ascent.

I make it to the top, and before me is the world. I'm the only person in view, there is no sound but my heart beat and the wind. The sun is making its way back home, and I look at my watch my friend died a few years ago to the day.

I named the mountain after them, and I yell out to the sky
YOU BETTER BE FUCKING WATCHING!!!!!!

Fights -

Galway - He's so Much Nicer on TV

A midget yells out to a bunch of us at the Kingshead
"American's all think you're so grand, so fookin grand. If I had me some proper legs, I'd kick all your arses back to Washington!"

"Hey Shamus!" I yell back after 10 minutes, four Guinness's and two shots. "Shut your fucking gob, or I'm gonna shut it for you."

Another American chimes in "Yeah that one." Pointing to me
"Stole your lucky charms!"

"You stole me charms give 'em back"

I grab my crotch, "I got your lucky charms right here
bitch, come and get 'em."

Galway - Bless me Sister for I will Sin

3 am, drinking with teenagers in Eyre Square. A nun comes
by, not too sure what she was doing out that late, but
there she was.

She chides the Irish about our drinking, saying it was
their national curse. She looks at me and says she would
expect me to know better me being in my 20s and all. I'm
about to say sorry, I'm about to change my ways, and be a
better adult, I wanted to go home and work really hard to
be a normal functioning person.

Instead, I grind my cigarette out with my sneaker and
instead of all that really nice stuff "Git te fuck ye
moosey faced bitch!" Rolls out of my mouth instead.

We stand there gaping at each other wondering where that came from until the Nun raises her cane.

I hope she has a glass jaw.

Inishbofin - Infiltrating the Invaders

Marching my way to Cromwell's Barracks. On a hill there are four sheep looking at me. They are still and their heads are bowed like they are getting ready to charge.

My left knee is beginning to swell from yesterday's excursion, I'm using a long piece of PVC to use as a walking stick to support it. It's ok enough to run if I really need to, but I'm avoiding it. I stop and stare back.

One of the sheep says "bleh"

I decide not to back down from the sheep. "What the fuck are you looking at, you got words bitch!?" The sheep separate and a ram steps up. It's the size of a small bear, the tips of the horns look sharp, and its crown looks as hard as steel plate.

I decide my knee is feeling pretty good after all.

Aftermaths -

Galway - Sister O'Pain

I stumble into the hostel room at 4am. The sun is coming up, and the bums are asleep underneath the eaves to avoid the rain.

The other occupant, another American named Scot from Ohio stirs. He sees that I'm rinsing my face off in the bathroom, and checking to see if I'm missing teeth.

"What happened to you?" He asks.

"Got into a fight, fucking nun."

"You fought a nun?!? Why?"

"She called me an alcoholic, I called her a moosey faced bitch in retaliation."

"What does that mean?"

"Fucked if I know, something bad apparently."

Inishbofin - And the Meek will kick some ass

I limp back into the hostel in the late afternoon. My clothes are muddy, my left arm is hanging funny and my breathing is irregular.

Teresa the hostess sees me and runs to my aid. "Peeeter what happened?" She squeals out slavically.

She begins checking my left arm.

"Fucking sheep. I had to fight my way back, I lost them in a bog thank God."

"You shouldn't be fighting sheep." She rubs my hair before she pushes my arm back in its socket. "What if you didn't make it back?"

"They started."

Sick of my stubbornness she slaps my shoulder. "Americans, all crazy!!" She storms back to her lair in the reading room, I check to see if my ribs are cracked, and to stretch out my knee.

Galway - Nun Redux

5am I stumble into my hostel.

Scott sees me again, as I'm in the bathroom mumbling first aid terms "Contusions, lacerations, possible dislocation." This is the third night in a row I came back in this state.

"Who was it this time?" He asks.

"Fucking nun."

"The same one?"

"No different, I *thought* it was the same one so I thought I could get a jump on her." I check my jaw, some bone contusions, but not dislocated or broken. "So I punch her in the back of the head. She turns around and all I remember is a fucking tornado of nails, teeth, and cane."

"Jesus, she had a cane?"

"So did the last one. I swear next time I pick a fight with a nun I'm bringing a fucking bat with me."