

NORMAL PEOPLE STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS



DRI SOFIA

5LSCA

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1. January 2011



Setting: Marianne's house, Connell's car



Characters:

- Marianne (clever but isolated from other people),
- Connell (popular at school),
- Lorraine (Connell's mother, she is also the cleaner at Marianne's house)



Function: introduction to characters



Main points:

- ✓ Marianne and Connell have a strange relationship, they go to the same school but do not speak to each other
- ✓ Connell and Marianne speak when he goes to pick up his mother at her house

2. Three Weeks Later (FEBRUARY 2011)



Setting: Marianne's house, school (football match), Connell's house



Characters:

- Marianne,
- Alan (Marianne's brother),
- Connell,
- Mr Kerrigan (history teacher)- only mentioned,
- Miss Keany (teacher),
- Schoolmates (Karen, Aidan Kennedy)



Function: introduction to Marianne's family background and show development of Marianne and Connell relationship



Main points:

- ✓ Dry relationship between Marianne and Alan: He is aggressive with her
- ✓ Marianne went to watch the school football match for the first time while Connell is playing
- ✓ Connell and Marianne get closer → They kiss but decided to keep it secret

3. One Month Later (MARCH 2011)



Setting: Connell's house, school



Characters:

- Marianne,
- Connell,
- Lorraine,
- Rob (schoolmate)



Function: deep dive into Connell's personality



Main points:

- ✓ Connell is undecided about college applications, feelings towards Marianne
- ✓ Connell is worried the school would find out about his relationship with Marianne

4. Six Weeks Later

(APRIL 2011)



Setting: Town's night club, Connell's house



Characters:

- Marianne,
- Connell,
- Schoolmates (Lisa, Karen, Rachel Moran, Eric, Rob),
- Pat



Function: further development of their relationship



Main points:

- ✓ At the club, Pat acts aggressively towards Marianne.
- ✓ Connell unexpectedly shows to care about Marianne in front of his friends ⇒ a clear development in Connell's behaviour
- ✓ Marianne opens up with him talking about his father ⇒ he was beating both her and the mother
- ✓ New start in Marianne's life ⇒ she has never believed herself as one fit to be loved by anybody
- ✓ Flashback: the ghost estate, Mountain View

5. Two Days Later

(APRIL 2011)



Setting: Hospital in Sligo, Connell's house, school,



Characters:

- Connell,
- Lorraine,
- Connell's grandmother,
- Marianne,
- Schoolmates (Rob, Eric, Rachel, Lisa)



Function: Focus on Connell's fears about other people's judgements and his personal feelings



Main points:

- ✓ Connell's background (he doesn't know his father).
- ✓ It turns he felt reassured by Marianne, when she said he grew up as a nice person.
- ✓ Flashback to the morning after the party, Marianne slept at Connell's house and Lorraine saw her leaving
- ✓ Flashback to the day after the party at school ⇒ Connell's friends ask what happened after he drove Marianne home
- ✓ Connell asked Rachel to go to Debs
- ✓ Lorraine finds out Connell is hiding his relationship with Marianne and is upset

6. Four Month Later (AUGUST 2011)



Setting: Marianne's house, Connell's house



Characters:

- Marianne,
- Alan,
- Connell,
- Lorraine,
- Denise (Marianne's mother)



Function: focus on the aggressive background at Marianne's house, indifference of Denise towards Marianne



Main points:

- ✓ Publication of grades ⇒ Connell has got 600 while Marianne has 590
- ✓ The arrogant way Alan addresses Marianne reinforces how she is treated at home
- ✓ Flashback: when Connell told Marianne he was taking Rachel to the Debs
- ✓ Marianne drops school

7.Three Month Later

(NOVEMBER 2011)



Setting: party in Dublin



Characters:

- Connell,
- Gareth,
- Marianne,
- Connell's flat-mate (Niall),
- Lorraine,
- Friends (Eric, Rachel, Rob, Lisa)



Function: overturning of roles



Main points:

- ✓ Connell is isolated, lonely, without friends
- ✓ Comparison: how Connell was in Sligo and how he is in Dublin
- ✓ Marianne is Gareth's girlfriend. She has become popular
- ✓ Flashback: when Marianne left school, Connell entered a period of low spirits

8.Three Month Later

(FEBRUARY 2012)



Setting: Connell's car, House party in Swords, Marianne's apartment/house



Characters:

- Marianne,
- Connell,
- Marianne's friends (Peggy and Joanna),
- Teresa (only mentioned)



Function: focus on Connell's socio- economic status and Marianne jealousy



Main points:

- ✓ Marianne wonders what she is going to do after collage
- ✓ Importance of the socio-economic background to define one's status in Dublin
- ✓ Marianne did not tell her friends from Dublin about what happened between her and Connell.⇒ She would be embarrassed if they would find out.
- ✓ Marianne is slightly jealous of Teresa because she sees Connell ⇒ she still cares about him
- ✓ Flashback: when Marianne was drunk and high at the party

9.Two Month Later

(APRIL 2012)



Setting: Marianne's apartment



Characters:

- Connell,
- Marianne,
- Peggy,
- Sophie



Function: Focus on Marianne and Connell's fears about a possible future and being parents



Main points:

- Marianne admits there is something going on between her and Connell in front of her friends (Peggy)
- Connell's status in Dublin is improving because he is hanging out with popular Marianne
- Flashback: Connell and Marianne are watching a romantic film where the protagonist finds out to be unexpectedly pregnant
- Connell looks worried as watching the movie makes him overthink and realise that Marianne might be pregnant of him.

10. Three Month Later

(JULY 2012)



Setting: supermarket in Carricklea, Connell's car



Characters:

- Marianne,
- Joanna (speaking on the phone),
- Lorraine,
- Connell,
- Sophie,
- Jamie



Function: Marianne's power on Connell and mutual attraction



Main points:

- ✓ Marianne sees Lorraine and Connell at the supermarket
- ✓ Marianne and Connell stopped seeing each other in May. Marianne is with Jamie now.
- ✓ Flashback to a house party in May when Connell showed affection for Marianne in public for the first time
- ✓ Flashback: when Connell beats Jamie at the pool ⇒ cap. 8

11. Six Weeks Later

(SEPTEMBER 2012)



Setting: café in Dublin, Marianne's apartment in Dublin, Sophie Whelan's house, Miss Neary's house



Characters:

- Marianne,
- Connell,
- Lorraine,
- Jamie (no action involved; they only speak about him),
- Paula Neary (old Economics teacher)



Function: Marianne believes herself to deserve to be beaten: She is a masochist. Emphasis on her strong relationship with Connell



Main points:

- ✓ Flashback about the reason why Connell and Marianne stopped seeing each other
- ✓ Connell left Dublin ⇒ he can't afford paying the rent
- ✓ Marianne moved on and now is with Jamie
- ✓ Connell went out with Miss Neary

12. Four Month Later

(JANUARY 2013)



Setting: Marianne's apartment



Characters:

- Marianne,
- Friends (Peggy, Sophie, Joanna),
- Jamie,
- Connell,
- Alan,
- Denise



Function: Strong relationship between Marianne and Connell, mutual care



Main points:

- ✓ Exams just finished
- ✓ Marianne is talking with her friends when she receives a call from Connell
- ✓ Flashback: episode of violence on Marianne by her brother Alan
- ✓ Connell has a new girlfriend: Helen Brophy

13. Six Month Later

(JULY 2013)



Setting: Train, Marianne's summer house in Trieste, university



Characters:

- Connell,
- Marianne,
- Jamie,
- Friends (Elaine, Niall, Peggy)



Function: new step in Connell's life: to be known as Helen boyfriend plants him firmly in the social world. Strong link between Marianne and Connell: he saves her from Jamie's violence



Main points:

- ✓ Flashback when Connell and Marianne received both the scholarship (→ different point of view towards the scholarship)
- ✓ Jamie's violence towards Marianne
- ✓ Helen's general critique of Marianne's behavior => She is jealous of Connell and Marianne's relationship

14. Five Month Later

(DECEMBER 2013)



Setting: Lobby of the languages and literature building, Lukas's studio



Characters:

- Marianne,
- Lukas,
- Connell (email)



Function: Marianne's desire to be dominated diminishes

Main points:



- ✓ Lukas's psychological and physical violence on Marianne. Her rebellion
- ✓ Marianne is under Lukas's control ⇒ depression

15. Three Month Later

(MARCH 2014)



Setting: psychologist's waiting room, psychologist's office, Connell's room, Rob's funeral, Tavern, lecture hall, Stag's Head



Characters:

- Connell,
- Receptionist,
- Ivonne (the psychologist),
- Niall (only mentioned)
- Marianne,
- Helen,
- Lorraine,
- Rob's parents,
- Eric,
- Sadie Darcy-O' Shea,
- Writer



Function: Connell's depression



Main points:

- ✓ Connell goes to Rob's funeral with Helen and his mother. They meet Marianne
- ✓ Helen is jealous of Connell's behavior towards Marianne
- ✓ Connell and Helen break up
- ✓ Connell rediscovers his writing's passion

16. Four Month Later

(JULY 2014)



Setting: Connell's room, Marianne's house



Characters:

- Connell,
- Marianne,
- Alan,
- Niamh Keenan (only mentioned),
- Eric (only mentioned)



Function: Marianne and Connell make a reflection on their relationship development



Main points:

- ✓ Marianne asks Connell to hit her ⇒ she is used to be mistreated by men
- ✓ Alan does not want her sister to go around with Connell ⇒ he belongs to a lower social class
- ✓ Alan is violent towards Marianne ⇒ he is convinced that he has to exercise a total control on her

17. Five Minutes Later

(JULY 2014)



Setting: Connell's house, Marianne's house, Connell's car



Characters:

- Connell,
- Lorraine,
- Marianne,
- Alan



Function: Connell represents the unique point of reference in Marianne's life and they can do without each other



Main points:

- ✓ Flashback to April when Connell sent one of his short stories to Sadie Darcy-O'Shea. Immediately excellent response ⇒ publication of the tale under the pseudonym "Conor McCready"
- ✓ Connell puts Marianne under cover from her brother's violence

18. Seven Month Later

(FEBRUARY 2015)



Setting: House, Connell's house, supermarket, Kelleher's



Characters:

- Marianne,
- Connell,
- Lorraine,
- Denise (Marianne's mother),
- Friends



Function: Focus on how relationships may change individuals. Connell brought Marianne goodness and now they belong to each other. Marianne is ready to leave Connell following his way.



Main points:

- ✓ Marianne now is a normal person
- ✓ Denise is considered a bit odd
- ✓ Flashback when, during New Year's Eve, Connell kissed Marianne and said "I love you" in front of their friends