

THEY

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EXT. BENCH - PARK - NEAR A LARGE OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

KATHY (late 20s) walks into frame and sits down on the park bench. She lifts her bag onto the chair next to her and rummages through it to find her lunch. A sandwich.

She takes a deep breath out - relaxing. She smiles to herself.

She breaks open the seal and pulls out one half of the sandwich.

She goes to eat it.

BILL (O.S.)

You're not going to eat that are you?

KATHY stops mid-bite.

She looks back over her shoulder and we see BILL (60s) looking totally aghast at her.

KATHY

I was thinking I might, yeah.

BILL talks over to her.

BILL

But that's a *shop-bought* sandwich!

KATHY is clearly confused by the notion - an obvious statement to make. She deliberately checks the package to confirm his suspicions.

BILL (CONT'D)

Do you know how much salt, fat and preservatives they say are in those things?

KATHY thinks for a second - she looks down at the sandwich and then back at BILL, who is clearly judging her poor choice of sandwich.

She throws the sandwich down in a huff - BILL is noticeably relieved.

KATHY

(frustrated)

Thanks for letting me know!

BILL

No, problem! Enjoy the rest of your day. Lovely, ain't it?

BILL breaks into a smile and walks away.

EXT. BENCH - PARK - NEAR A LARGE OFFICE BUILDING - THE NEXT DAY

KATHY walks into frame and sits down on the park bench.

She sheepishly looks around, but BILL is nowhere in sight.

She lifts her bag onto the seat next to her and rummages through it - pulling out a small tupperware box. Inside is a homemade sandwich.

KATHY picks up one half and goes to eat it.

PAULINE (O.S.)  
(disgusted)  
Oh my god! You're not going to eat  
that are you?

KATHY stops mid-bite.

She looks up and sees PAULINE (40s) looking down at her - furious.

PAULINE (CONT'D)  
Did you not hear, they reckon white  
bread gives you cancer?

KATHY pulls the sandwich away from her mouth.

KATHY  
No... No, I didn't.

PAULINE  
Yeah, something about the wheat or  
what they use to make it, I don't  
know all the facts. But I do know  
it gives you cancer!

KATHY  
Yeah, you said that already.

PAULINE  
So what you doin' eating it for  
then?

KATHY  
I thought I was hungry.

KATHY places the sandwich on her lap.

PAULINE

Cor! I only sorta saved your life!  
No need to thank me or nothin'.

PAULINE storms away in a huff. KATHY throws the sandwich back into the tupperware box and fumbles the lid closed - noticeably frustrated.

EXT. BENCH - PARK - NEAR A LARGE OFFICE BUILDING - THE THIRD DAY

KATHY hesitantly walks towards the park bench - she looks around. The coast is clear - relief.

She sneakily grabs the tupperware from her bag and pulls out a sandwich - made with dark, thick, heavy brown bread this time.

KATHY checks the sandwich over - deliberately and carefully, making sure that everything about it is okay.

She goes to eat, but stops - looking around, but no one is there. She's just paranoid.

Kathy slowly goes to eat, bringing it closer and closer to her mouth.

Finally she goes to bite it.

MAGGIE (O.S.)

Oh, Kathy? What on earth are you eating?!

KATHY is noticeably annoyed this time.

MAGGIE (early 30s) sits down next to her - sympathetic in her attitude.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Didn't you know, no one eats meat these days?

KATHY

It's just ham.

MAGGIE

(shocked)

They say ham is bad for you now!  
Like, so bad!

KATHY

But I've been eating it my whole life and I'm fine.

MAGGIE

Blimey, have you not seen all the documentaries? I'm just so upset at how inhumanly we treat the cows.

KATHY

Pigs.

MAGGIE

Exactly! Capitalism destroying the planet! I'm glad you've seen sense. Here, let me-

MAGGIE snatches the sandwich out of KATHY's hand - as though touching something contaminated. She gets up from the bench and drops the sandwich into a nearby bin.

KATHY hangs her head in disbelief.

EXT. BENCH - PARK - NEAR A LARGE OFFICE BUILDING - THE FORTH DAY

KATHY marches over to the bench - aggressively. She is muttering to herself.

KATHY

I don't care what they think. I'm just going to eat my lunch, and then go back to work. It's my choice. I get to decide what I eat-

KATHY pulls out a brown sandwich from her bag, she looks inside - we see pitiful amount of cheese and a small lettuce leaf. It doesn't look appetising.

KATHY (CONT'D)

I don't care. Watch me. Here goes!

She goes to eat it.

FRANCIS (O.S.)

Umm? Excuse me?

FRANCIS (8) is stood in front of KATHY.

KATHY

ARGH!! What the fuck do you want now?!

KATHY looks at the boy - who is noticeably taken aback.

KATHY (CONT'D)  
What?... Come on! Say it. What's  
wrong with my sandwich?

FRANCIS  
Ch-chee-

KATHY  
(mocking)  
Ch-chee-che?! Spit it out you  
little weasel!

Tears well up fast in FRANCIS' eyes.

FRANCIS' MUM (late 30s) walks into shot and looks at KATHY -  
shocked. KATHY notices.

FRANCIS' MUM  
They just told us he's dairy  
intolerant.

KATHY  
Okay, so?! What's that got to do  
with me?

FRANCIS  
(sincere)  
I- I just wanted to tell you that  
they said I can't eat cheese  
anymore, so please make sure you  
enjoy it... For me.

FRANCIS walks away, distraught. His mum follows.

KATHY feels awful. She looks down at her cheese sandwich.  
Eventually throwing it on the floor.

EXT. BENCH - PARK - NEAR A LARGE OFFICE BUILDING - THE FIFTH  
DAY

KATHY sits down - totally despondent.

Today, she has no lunch.

Eventually, IAN sits down next to her. He pulls out a large  
sandwich, full of meat, cheese, and other naughtiness.  
Followed by a pack of crisps, a fizzy drink, and a chocolate  
bar.

KATHY watches in amazement.

He goes to eat the sandwich - KATHY watching eagerly, but  
stops. He can feel someone looking at him.

He turns and looks at KATHY.

IAN

What?

KATHY

(disheartened)

Did you know, they say sandwiches  
are full of fat, cancer, corrupt-  
evil-capitalism and childhood  
heartbreak?

IAN

(confused)

And do you think I give a fuck?

IAN takes a large bite from his sandwich and starts munching  
on the crips - chugging it all down with a fizzy drink.

IAN (CONT'D)

...Can you stop staring me? I just  
want to eat my lunch in peace.

KATHY looks like she either wants to cry or scream.

CUT TO BLACK

THE END.