

INT. CAFE FRANCESCA, SOUTH END - DAY
A small, bohemian cafe, mostly men.

JOE CROWLEY
Ms. Pfeiffer?

SACHA
Joe?
He stands, almost knocking over his coffee. He starts to straighten the messy table, clean the crumbs all over it.

JOE CROWLEY
Shoot. Sorry.

SACHA
No, that's okay, no problem.

JOE CROWLEY
Uh... please sit. Is this table okay? I had a muffin while I was waiting. Two actually. I eat when I'm nervous.

SACHA
I do that too.
(then)
I hope I'm not late. Phil said one.

JOE CROWLEY
No, you're fine. I got here early. About an hour.

SACHA
Would you mind if I took some of notes? Would that be alright?

BREAK*****

Joe talks very fast. He takes a big gulp of water.

JOE CROWLEY

...and there was this nun, Sister Barbara, she ran this group for kids from troubled families.

SACHA

Where was that?

JOE CROWLEY

St. Ambrose in Dorchester. She's the one who introduced me to Father Shanley. He was a street priest, long hair, very hip. He invited me to his apartment in Back Bay.

SACHA

Where in Back Bay?

JOE CROWLEY

Beacon Street. Are you from here?

SACHA

I grew up in Ohio but my mom's from Southie.

JOE CROWLEY

So you get it. I'd never even been to Back Bay.

SACHA

What happened on that first visit?

JOE CROWLEY

Well, he was very nice at first, very casual, very funny. And I think he could tell I was gay because he showed me this mobile he had, like over a baby's crib? But with different words. Homosexual, bisexual, transsexual...

SACHA

Did you know you were gay at the time, Joe?

JOE CROWLEY

Yes, but that wasn't information I was sharing with anybody. Not in Dorchester.

SACHA

Right. So, what happened when he showed you the mobile?

JOE CROWLEY

Well, I was a little freaked out and I guess he could tell so he said, you know what will help is if we play strip poker. Of course I lost. And things went on from there.

SACHA

What happened specifically?

JOE CROWLEY

Specifically, he molested me.

SASHA

Joe, I think the language here is going to be very important. We can't sanitize this, just saying molest isn't enough. People need to know what actually happened.

Joe sits back, getting it as the waiter serves two coffees.

JOE CROWLEY

Maybe we should get these to go.

BREAK*****

JOE CROWLEY

He said it was a way to make me more comfortable with my body.

SACHA

And what happened next.

JOE CROWLEY

...he took off his clothes and said I've been depressed, maybe you can cheer me up and give me a blow job. Classy guy.

SACHA

And did you?

JOE CROWLEY

Yeah. I know what you must be thinking, why I would ever do that with some creepy guy thirty years older than me. But you have to understand, this was the first time in my life that someone told me it was okay to be gay. And he was a priest.

SACHA

So you had oral sex. Did you have intercourse as well?

JOE CROWLEY

Yes. Not then, but later. It really messed me up. I'm sober now but that was the beginning of it all. It's very confusing, you know, to be introduced to sex like that and then to be attracted to men...

Joe tears up a bit. He stops, wipes his eyes.

JOE CROWLEY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, I knew I was gonna do this. I'm sorry.

SACHA

Don't be sorry. It's okay, Joe. It's okay.

Joe notices the kids on the church playground.

JOE CROWLEY

And of course there's a church right here. And a playground.

Joe laughs nervously.

SACHA

Joe, did you ever tell anyone?

JOE CROWLEY

Like who, a priest?