

Traveling Salesman
by:Patrick Cronin

Whitney (60) is vacuuming when there is a loud knock on the door. She goes to answer and peers through the peephole and stops dead in her tracks.

WHITNEY

Shit! Shit shit shit shit.

Whitney paces around hoping that the knocker leaves her alone. There's another knock on the door.

WHITNEY

grumbling

Undeniable

Begrudgingly she walks over and swings open the door to a middle school boy, Ronnie (15) wearing a suit and tie and holding a brief case.

WHITNEY

Hello Ronnie

RONNIE

Mrs. Morrissey! Hoya doin? Have a lovely Easter last weekend?

WHITNEY

We did

RONNIE

And the grandchild! Greta must be a year old now?

WHITNEY

unbudging

That's right

RONNIE

So nice Mrs. Morrissey. You got a stunner of an entrance by the way. Well, hey now, I came by to let you know I'm starting a new business and

I'm prepared to offer you this
exclusive ...

WHITNEY

Get out of here, I'm not gonna listen
to another one of your scams

RONNIE

Scams?!

WHITNEY

When I buy your "local eggs" I come to
find out that you're selling me store
bought eggs at a premium!

RONNIE

Distribution is a legitimate service

WHITNEY

I pay you to babysit but I come home
early and find a whole damn daycare in
my living room!

RONNIE

I wouldn't have been able to offer such
low prices if I didn't scale!

WHITNEY

Out with it then! What are you peddling
today???

RONNIE

Mrs. Morrissey, I want to skin, gut,
and stuff your pup. Top of the line
taxidermy. The moment your dog kicks
the can we're in your home sucking out
its insides and pumping it full of
cotton balls. For only \$499.99 you're
cashing in on the most sentimental
stuffed animal imaginable.

WHITNEY

\$499?? What a scam! if you had a pair
you'd come out with it and say half a
grand.

From his duffle bag Ronnie pulls out a large stuffed animal and
puts it on display.

RONNIE

If you buy now, I'll throw in our
shelter blanket for FREE. From the pups
that never made it out of the shelter,
you'll receive a premium quilt of dog
pelts. Stitched right here in Ridgewood
New Jersey! That's a FREE shelter
blanket with your purchase of one or
more taxidermies.

Ronnie pulls a blanket from the duffle to be admired right as
MARSHAL, whitney's husband, walks over

MARSHAL

Annoyed

What's going on out here, it's dinner
time!

The quilt catches Marshall's eye

MARSHAL

Oh my that's quite a quilt

WHITNEY

What's for dinner?

MARSHALL

I told you this morning I'm making Tuna
salad with craisins

WHITNEY

Put some celery in it this time

MARSHALL

When have I ever not put celery in???

WHITNEY

There wasn't a morsel of celery in mine
last week

MARSHAL

Preposterous!

Whitneys attention focuses back on Ronnie

WHITNEY

Get off our porch, Ronnie, it's dinner
time. I'm not falling for your tricks

MARSHAL

Hold on a minute. Is that a stuffed
labrador I see?

RONNIE

Mr. Morrissey, your dog Tessy is the
best, but she's old... Your granddaughter
is gonna grow up never getting to know
what a beautiful Shitsu she is. What
I'm offering is to stuff Tessy once she
dies.

MARSHAL

Now that's clever, real creative young
man. How much?

WHITNEY

\$499!!!

MARSHAL

That's actually fairly competitive
pricing

RONNIE

But wait there's more! Im throwing in this beautiful dog blanket and now, our guinea pig socks. When parents tire of buying food for a rodent, instead of flushing them, I stretch into our long lasting socks.

Marshal holds up a hand to silence Ronnie. Ronnie counters by holding up a pair of ped socks. Marshall looks with eyes wide: those are some well crafted low cut socks.

MARSHAL

Knock off \$150 and we have a deal.

RONNIE

I like you Mr. Morrissey. I really do. So now I'm gonna knock your damn socks off and slide those precious toes into a fresh pair of guinea pig ankle cuts. You buy right now and this is all half off!

WHITNEY

Can't believe it

WHAT?!

RONNIE

That's right, posthumous taxidermy, the shelter blanket and our guinea pig socks for only 250\$, but don't wait because this limited time offer is only available...

MARSHAL

excited

SOLD! You have a deal young man!

RONNIE

It's a pleasure doing business with you!

The two shake hands, exchange money for goods, and the door closes.

WHITNEY

Nothing turns me on like a good deal

MARSHAL

Good cop bad cop works every time

WHITNEY

Lets go make love under our new blanket

Marshal plants a fat kiss on Whitney

Ronnie turns to leave

RONNIE

Chuckles to himself

Can't believe they thought that was dog hair.