THE SIN

Eddy Oliva

FADE IN:

EXT. FRONT OF CHURCH 1 - DAY

THOMAS, Catholic priest in clerical clothing and vestment, late middle-aged, walks out of the church doors. He ambles over to a bicycle rack and mounts a bike, but on his first push gets his vestment caught in the chain. He untangles it, then pushes the material further up his lap. He cycles away from the church.

EXT. FRONT OF CHURCH 2 - DAY

Thomas pulls up in front of a different church. He glances around nervously, and then edges his bike against the church wall. He enters.

INT. CONFESSIONAL - DAY

Through the grid ROBERT, man in his mid-twenties, sits. Thomas enters, kneels down, crosses himself.

THOMAS

Is there anybody there?

Robert's iPhone displays 'pretty borin so far, maybe not worth the jokez'

ROBERT (O.S.)

(in regional accent)

Err, yeah, one second... (in more authoritative and neutral voice) Let me...

THOMAS

I've come to seek penance and reconciliation.

ROBERT (O.S.)

Ahh, a man who knows his terminology, most of them these days just come in and blurt out about dogging with Shelly, or nicking Ian's USB stick.

THOMAS

Well... bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It's a very delicate matter considering my line of work, but I must seek forgiveness...

ROBERT (O.S.)

Reveal the nature of your sin, for then I can assign you your... (hesitates) penance.

THOMAS

It concerns a matter of deviancy. I have recently acquired a new acquaintance. They were fresh of heart and unwise to the wickedness of weak men. We grew closer and closer, until I acted in the most perverse of manners... to put it bluntly, I groomed him....

Robert's iPhone: '999'. Robert's thumb hovers over the call button.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

It feels like love, but I know it can't be, it's not permitted. It just felt so right...

DISSOLVE TO:

FLASHBACK

INT. CHURCH 1 - NIGHT

Thomas looks guilty. He leans in for a kiss with what is revealed to be a dog. The dog licks his closed lips. Thomas reaches for a hairbrush and then brushes the dog with it.

END FLASHBACK

THOMAS

How I wish I hadn't smoothed the pooch.

INT/EXT. LOCATIONS - VARIOUS. DAY/NIGHT

(MONTAGE)

Robert is in a pub and tells his friends something (M.O.S.) which results in laughter.

Thomas fits a basket to the front of his bike.

Thomas rides along on his bike, with the dog in front basket.

(END OF MONTAGE)