

The Boys

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The boys meet in a beat.

This is *not* the story they tell their friends.

The One in the Suit

(for reasons he has never understood)

is open,

and tells the One in the Jeans his real name,

and something comes up,

about workouts and gyms

and the One in the Jeans says

He's been there before, and

Isn't it great how it's right on the station,

and you can hear the trains?

The One in the Jeans

starts working out to the sounds of the station.

The One in the Suit ignores him... for a while.

The One in the Jeans comes over to cook,

lasagne, and balsamic strawberries.

The One in the Jeans never leaves.

The One in the Suit is tall, dark and handsome.

The One in the Jeans is short, dark and hairy.

The One in the Jeans is young and full of life.

The One in the Suit looks good, and lies about his age.

The One in the Jeans is fun.

The One in the Suit is funny.

The One in the Jeans likes football.

The One in the Suit likes footballers.

The One in the Suit is afraid to love.

The One in the Jeans is afraid not to.

The Boys work hard.

They workout.

They shave, wax, and use fake tan.

The One in the Suit wants to buy a house.

The One in the Jeans can only afford a flat.

The flat is in Ashfield... *Before* you'd live in Ashfield.

It is ground floor but has big rooms,

and black and white tiles in the kitchen.

The Boys work hard,

grouting, painting.

The One in the Suit negotiates a ridiculous rate with the agent.

They make a little.

The One in the Jeans finds a huge, old house, with a 14-foot camellia in the backyard.

The One in the Suit cuts it down because it blocks the light.

The neighbours are great.

Girls.

One dog.

They love board games, butter chicken, and doing the King Street shuffle on lazy mornings.

There is talk of a baby...

But something happens with the fences,

or the parking,

or maybe someone's deck extended too far and ruined the views.

No one remembers anymore.

No one talks anymore.

But sometimes the day after pickup, a fresh

package of prawn shells or fish bones get dumped in a bin.

The One in the Suit tells the One in the Jeans he is too smart to be showing films five times a week.

The One in the Jeans goes to school nights,

works hard.

The One in the Suit goes to bars nights,
plays hard.

They sell the big old house with no camellia tree and upgrade to the trophy home.
They make a motza.

The One in the Jeans is aggressive.

The One in the Suit is controlling.

The One in the Suit loathes the One in the Jeans friends.

The One in the Jeans loathes the One in the Suits tidiness.

They grow plump.

They grow beards.

They grow old.

They grow bored.

The Boys invite people,

well,

persons,

well,

men,

over.

The Boys make rules,

No bareback.

No friends.

No repeats.

And never alone.

At the park they meet the One in the Shorts.

The One in the Shorts wants to be a singer,

no, wants to be a Star!

The rules are broken.

The One in the Jeans sees the One in the Shorts most mornings.

The One in the Suit meets the One in the Shorts in the car park, most afternoons.

The One in the Suit takes a package,
and becomes the One in the Jeans.

The One in the Jeans takes a job,
and becomes the One in the Suit.

The One in the Suit is falling in love with the One in the Shorts.
The One in the Jeans is falling in love with the One in the Shorts.
The One in the Shorts is making promises...
To both boys.

The One in the Shorts is a dick.

The Boys are bitter.
The Boys aren't talking.
The Boys sell the house... for \$57k less than they paid.

The One in the Jeans takes his half to Europe where he meets a Belgian version of the
One in the Suit.
The One in the Suit takes his half and invests in a recording studio...
For the One in the Shorts.

The men meet in a beat.
This is *not* the story they tell their friends.