

GETTING AROUND TO IT

Written by

Eric Perret

1 INT. MODEST SEATTLE HOUSE - SATURDAY MORNING 1

8:00 AM. NPR snaps on the radio alarm clock and drones in the background. KRISTEN, 30 something woman, yawns, stretches and roles out of bed. We follow her lazy Saturday morning routine: brushing teeth, looking around online, eating breakfast, etc. A brand new pair of day-glo running shoes looms large, catching her eye. Her world is filled with little motivational reminders nudging her to get fit and be her best self. She finally caves in and gets suited up in her brand new running gear. She jumps into frame and begins posing in front of a full length mirror.

KRISTEN

You can do this! You are the hottest runner out there. You are fierce. You are awesome. You are the BEST! Lets do this!

CUT TO:

2 INT. HARVARD EXIT MOVIE THEATER - SATURDAY AFTERNOON 2

Tight on Kristen's day-glo running shoes. Pull out to reveal her feet are propped up on the balcony of a movie theater. She is eating popcorn and candy while watching a B&W film.

CUT TO:

3 INT. MODEST SEATTLE HOUSE - SUNDAY MORNING 3

8:00 AM. NPR snaps on the radio alarm clock. Kristen jumps out of bed. Ready for action. She puts her running gear on immediately and heads out the door, she grabs a snack and her water bottle on the way.

4 EXT. SEWARD PARK WALKING TRAIL - LATE MORNING 4

KRISTEN does some awkward stretchy-type motions. She makes some preparatory 'here we go' motions and sets off jogging down the path.

She is quickly passed by a group of seasoned runner - TWO DUCES RUNNING CLUB. One of them mysteriously peels off into the woods. Kristen passes and sees the runner squatting with his pants down, he gives her a little wave.

5 EXT. SEWARD PARK WALKING TRAIL - LATE MORNING 5

KRISTEN runs out of the woods, past a father and son sitting on a log.

TYLER
Daddy, I know what sex is.

CHRIS
What?

TYLER
First, he does these body motions.
Then she does her body motions. And
that's it.

CHRIS
Well, my man, it appears my work
here is done.

6 EXT. SEWARD PARK WALKING TRAIL - LATE MORNING 6

KRISTEN makes it about 100 meters, before succumbing to a side ache. Grimacing, she gamely attempts to keep moving, and walk it off. In so doing, she falls into pace with a woman, SAMANTHA and a man JOSH.

SAMANTHA and JOSH walk side by side, talking, oblivious to anyone around them. SAMANTHA walks barefoot and incongruous in dark evening wear; high heels dangling from one hand, and a paper coffee cup in the other. JOSH is in jeans, sneakers, and a hoodie, also carrying a coffee go-cup. KRISTEN listens.

JOSH begins to speak, tentatively.

JOSH
So, about last night?

SAMANTHA
Yes?

JOSH
How did you... I mean geez,
obviously... like, there was a
sense of... I don't know...

SAMANTHA
It's okay.

JOSH
It's not like I - I mean, I have
kids for chrissakes.

SAMANTHA

Well, you just never know, you know?

JOSH continues to speak, as if he hasn't heard her.

JOSH

I mean you... then I...

SAMANTHA

Yeah. Look -

SAMANTHA stops, takes JOSH's face in both hands - awkwardly because of what she's carrying - gazes into his eyes intensely, but with compassion.

KRISTEN passes the now paused couple in the path. JOSH and SAMANTHA slowly recede in the distance.

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)

It's okay. You're okay. It doesn't change anything. Okay?

JOSH

It doesn't change anything?

SAMANTHA

Not if you don't want it to, it doesn't.

JOSH

But that's the thing. I think I want it to. What do I do now?

KRISTEN picks up the pace again. She passes by an old man, WALTER, and an old woman, LINDA.

WALTER

You're walking too fast!

LINDA

I'm getting my exercise here.

WALTER

Exercise? I'll show you exercise.

LINDA

What? It's Wednesday night?

WALTER

Not yet. But it's coming up!

KRISTEN pushes onward and approaches NICK, a young man, on the phone.

NICK

All I ever wanted was a girl who's a total hottie, can cook a steak, and is cool that I'm into My Little Pony.

She passes NICK by.

7

EXT. SEWARD PARK WALKING TRAIL - LATE MORNING

7

KRISTEN RUNNER stops again, gasping for breath, her hands on her knees. She begins walking. She falls into pace with a gay couple, MATTHEW and SCOTT pushing baby stroller festooned in carabineered baby toys. Two go-cups of coffee on board.

SCOTT

Are you sure you're going to be okay?

MATTHEW

You mean is he going to be okay?

SCOTT

Don't be a bitch.

MATTHEW

I'm sorry. I'm just tired.

SCOTT

I know. If you want, you have time for a nap before the car comes.

MATTHEW

Oh God yes. Shower first though. You don't want to know the last time I had one.

SCOTT

No, I don't, thank you. Promise me you'll try and get out and see people?

MATTHEW

We'll see.

SCOTT

There's is this thing called a 'babysitter' you know.

KRISTEN picks up the pace and starts running again.

MATTHEW

No. He's ours. Finally. He's family. He doesn't get left with strangers.

SCOTT

Kai and Brad are hardly strangers.

The gay couple slowly recede behind her in the distance as KRISTEN approaches a mom, HEATHER, and daughter, EMILY from behind, and slows to a walk.

HEATHER

Hold up your fist.

EMILY does so.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

And see? That's about how big your uterus is right now.

EMILY considers her fist. She points her knuckles towards MOM for a fist-bump. Mom smiles and gives her a fist-bump.

EMILY

Uterus-bump!

HEATHER

Uterus-bump!

KRISTEN picks up the pace again. Leaving mom and daughter behind as she approaches a couple; DON and TESS sitting on a bench with their cute little dog. Their tone is babyish, sickly, cloyingly sweet.

DON

I love you.

TESS

No, I love you.

DON

No, I love yooouuu--

TESS

No no no no no. I love YOU!

DON

But I loooooove youuuu...

8

EXT. SEWARD PARK WALKING TRAIL - LATE MORNING

8

KRISTEN begins to limp, and slows to a clumsy walk. She stops just ahead of a white-haired woman, PAM, who is speaking loudly into her cell speaker phone.

PAM

Hi, it's me. Is it too early for you? Just out walking. Yes. No. I don't know.
 Go curl up in a ball, I suppose.
 Yes, of course I am, dear.
 Can't you tell? I'm past that. I'm calling you, aren't I? No. I know.
 Well, excuse my French, but fuck the stages. I'm fed up with the stages. Is fed up a stage?
 It sure as shit should be. I just miss him, that's all. No thank you.
 All right, dear. Of course you are.
 No, never in life. Well what do you think? You even have to ask?

PAM puts the collar of her oversized sweater to her face and inhales.

PAM (CONT'D)

But it's getting so it doesn't smell like him anymore, that's the sad part. It's true. Isn't that something? The rest is just things, things, stuff. Just bric-a-brac. You live your whole life and it comes down to stuff. Let the kids sort it out. But the smells. It's the smells. Mm. Yes. I know dear. I'm telling you, remember? Precious. I just can't bring myself to wash anything.

KRISTEN is up and running again. As she carries along the path, she passes PAM, and leaves her behind.

9

EXT. SEWARD PARK WALKING TRAIL - LATE MORNING

9

KRISTEN's breathing becomes heavy and steady again. She passes by a series of people, and the ambient sounds of the park pick back up again.

KRISTEN passes REBECAH.

REBECAH

I need a good cry or a good fuck.
And I don't have time for either of
them and I'm just so frustrated.

KRISTEN passes two girlfriends walking in conversation; TAMMY is speaking.

TAMMY

I think I would push another baby
out of my vagina, but I would not
get married again.

KRISTEN slips by the two women, running through the gateway to the playground where a FATHER and two three year old TWIN BOYS play/fight.

FATHER

(lecturing)

You love your brother, always
forever, for your whole life, no
matter what, you are going to love
your brother.

KRISTEN runs on out of the playground.

10

EXT. SEWARD PARK WALKING TRAIL - LATE MORNING

10

KRISTEN picks up the pace, her head raised high and body moving quick and steady like a professional athlete. Suddenly she veers across the path to a bench, where she collapses.

A high school girl, CHASE, walks past. She's walking alone, listening to dance music coming from her cell phone speaker, oblivious to everyone around her. She is completely engrossed in her own world. KRISTEN watches her walk down the path into a group of dancers practicing to the same song. CHASE continues to look down at the video, and walks straight into the group. She accidentally bumps into one of the dancers, oblivious to their presence.

KRISTEN smiles, watching.

KRISTEN, inspired by the music and the dancers, gets up off of the bench, motivated to finish her run. She passes through the group of dancers, giving them a high five.

BACKUP DANCER

Looking good girl!

KRISTEN smiles and picks up speed. She passes CHASE and continues on her run, moving to the beat of the music.

11 EXT. SEWARD PARK WALKING TRAIL - LATE MORNING

11

KRISTEN sprints a few meters, and comes to a stop at the meeting of 2 trails along the waterfront. Theatrically, she walks in circles, gasping, hands on hips. She feels good. Love is everywhere. Birds are singing. She looks winsome.

A male runner, MIKE comes stumbling to a stop from the other direction; her male physical counterpart. He's wearing identical day-glo running shoes. He's gasping for breath. They lock eyes, check each other out, notice the matching shoes.

MIKE

Hi.

KRISTEN

Hi!

The sounds of birds, children at the playground, and people in the park disappear.

CUT TO:

12 INT. HARVARD EXIT MOVIE THEATER - SATURDAY AFTERNOON

12

Tight on 4 day-glo running shoes. Pull out to reveal Kristen and Mike cuddled-up watching a movie together.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END.