

# The Hannigans

**A newly retired American couple pack up and move to a small English village, but they're not exactly getting the peaceful life they hoped for.**

“The Hannigans” is a comedy for anyone who’s ever dreamed of starting over. It’s a story about mature adults on a life-changing adventure. A story with sweetness, absurdity, frustration and intrigue.

Larry and Joyce Hannigan have inherited property in the fictional English village of Tarslaw, just outside Newcastle. Larry suffered a mild heart attack at the age of 54, which convinced them both to pursue a slower, simpler life. Both recently retired with a new perspective since the heart attack, they’ve bravely chosen to leave their life in Rochester, New York behind and create a new pastoral existence, free from the trappings of technology, noise and city bustle.

Upon their arrival, they surprisingly discover they aren’t alone on the property. An older, but spry gentleman with an avid love of old British punk bands, “Murph” lives in a tiny cottage on their property. Never told of this cottage or Murph, they’re unaware he’s been the long-time groundskeeper and handyman for Larry’s great aunt, the property’s original owner. Murph immediately attempts to make himself useful to The Hannigans - hoping to continue his rent-free existence. Joyce and Larry have other plans. Thus begins a cat and mouse struggle involving amateur detective work, an elusive real estate lawyer, secret messages in arranged flowers, art forgery - and a maddening lack of Pinot Grigio.

Despite daily mishaps, misfortunes and absurdities, Joyce and Larry carry on, eventually discovering the history of Murph and his relationship with Larry’s great aunt. Ultimately, they embrace him - along with all the eccentric characters and cultural idiosyncrasies of the odd little village of Tarslaw.

Episodes, and the season story arc, unfold with understated humor. Absurd moments arise randomly - ironically underscoring the simmering frustration of Joyce and Larry, who desperately want the life they’ve dreamed of, while proving their doubters wrong.



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## Primary Characters

### Joyce Hannigan

Joyce (age 57) has recently retired from her job as a bank teller and is eager to hit the reset button, starting a new life with her husband. She is an art enthusiast who has volunteered at a local museum for years. She has aspirations of seriously pursuing some related back-burner endeavors, most notably watercolor painting. She has a knack for sarcasm and is absolutely not adverse to cursing. More than once, she's been referred to as a "loose cannon."

A rough patch earlier in her marriage resulted in a now semi-legendary two week disappearance, which she referred to as a "soul journey." Despite that bit of historical turmoil, she currently loves her husband deeply. Others in her day to day life...not so much. Those who find her personality abrasive can fuck right off.

Without a doubt, Joyce is the show's comedic core.

### Larry Hannigan

Larry (age 56) is an attractive, soft-spoken retired postman who suffered a mild heart attack at the age of 54. His interests reflect his low-key personality - golf, reading and walking. He quietly and lovingly provides emotional stability for Joyce, knowing exactly how to deal with her volatility. Despite his devotion to Joyce, he draws some awkward attention from a few of the town's widows and divorcees.

### Murph

Murph (age 73) was the long-time groundskeeper and handyman for Larry's great aunt, the original owner of the property Larry inherited. Quirky Murph has been living rent-free in a small cottage on the property for many years and would very much like that arrangement to continue. Not eager for any sort of formal discussion about this, he instead tries to sneakily endear himself to Joyce and Larry, hoping to become a valuable fixture in their life. Murph's unwelcome presence sets up a comedic chess game that runs through all of the first season episodes, ultimately resulting in acceptance and friendship.

