

The Cabbie's Tale

Version 1a

by
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HERBERT JOHNSON, a 50ish white barber finishes brushing off his barber's chair. He turns and motions to STEVE, a tough but good looking white man in his 20s with medium length hair who is sitting, waiting for his turn.

HERBERT

All ready sir.

Steve gets up and takes his place in the barber chair. Herbert covers him with a sheet.

Next to Herbert, his partner, NORMAN, a Caribbean 50ish black man is cutting the hair of ANDY, a slightly pathetic 40ish white man whose hair on top is thinning drastically.

HERBERT (cont'd)

Right. What'll it be today.

STEVE

Take it all off.

NORMAN

Now there's something his missus hasn't said in years.

ANDY

Mine hasn't neither. Well, that is, if I had one she wouldn't have.

HERBERT

You lot can shut it now. This young gent is a new customer and he's not used to your rubbish.

(To Steve)

Really? You want a clean shave? A fine head of hair like that and you want to get rid of it? Why don't we just start with a number one?

STEVE

All right then. Leave a bit on top.

HERBERT

As you like.

Herbert clicks on the clippers and starts taking off chunks of Steve's hair at the back of his head.

NORMAN

If he doesn't want it, Andy here could use some.

ANDY

I'm not balding I've just got too much testosterone built up.

NORMAN

Which is a fancy way of saying you got no woman.

HERBERT

Jesus!

Herbert is staring at the back of Steve's head. We see in CLOSE UP a huge "zipper" type scar going right across the back of Steve's skull. Norman leans over and whistles.

NORMAN

Boy it looks like the front of Andy's jeans. All zipped up tight and angry.

ANDY

I don't wear jeans.

HERBERT

You were covering that up nicely son. Are you sure you want to lay it all out in the open?

Steve smiles disturbingly.

STEVE

Yeah. It's for my girlfriend.

HERBERT

Your girlfriend? She likes it?

STEVE

She gave it to me.

Herbert, Norman and Andy exchange a look.

HERBERT

And, uh, if you don't mind my asking. Why did she do that?

Steve chuckles appreciatively.

STEVE

Redheads. They've got a mean streak.

ANDY

I had a redhead girlfriend once. Well, actually she was my postman. Still I saw her everyday though.

STEVE

Nah mate. My girlfriend's blond.
The redhead's the one got in my
cab one day.

2 INT. CAB - AFTERNOON

2

Steve looks in his rearview and sees a stunning REDHEAD in a tight black coat get into the back of his cab.

STEVE

Where to?

REDHEAD

Grant street.

Steve pulls out and starts to drive. He glances into his rearview and gives his passenger a quick once over.

STEVE (V.O.)

You get these types every now and then. Usually late at night. It's like one of them models with a perfect face jumps out a magazine and gets sat right behind you.

As the Redhead reclines languorously, Steve takes in her legs stretching out a long, long way from beneath her coat.

STEVE (cont'd)

It's like she was designed by my own personal Santa. Skin like silk and legs longer than the M25. Now normally ladies like this don't even look at you. This one was different though. Really different.

ANDY (V.O.)

You mean like she had a bulge in her trousers which you couldn't see at first but then when you did it was too late and when you tried to run she pinned you down because it turned out she was a lot stronger than you...?

3 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY

3

Steve, Norman and Herbert are staring at Andy.

ANDY

Never mind.

Herbert and Norman resume cutting hair.

STEVE

This one had a smile about her.
Like she had a secret and she was
looking for someone to whisper it
to.

Herbert, Norman and Andy exchange "nudge nudge" looks.

STEVE (cont'd)

You've got to be careful though.
It's easy to fool yourself into
seeing something that isn't
there. Happens to lots of cabbies
and before you know it you've got
a face full of mace.

ANDY

And I hate the taste of pepper.

NORMAN

Quiet fool.

HERBERT

Let the gent talk.

Herbert starts using scissors on Steve and Norman starts
using a clipper on Andy.

4 INT. CAB - AFTERNOON

4

Steve looks in his rearview and sees the Redhead looking
out the window. A coy smile plays about her mouth and she
flicker's the smallest of sideways glances up at him.

STEVE (V.O.)

But I kept getting this feeling.
Something was happening and it
wasn't all in my head.

Steve looks in his rearview again and this time sees the
Redhead undo her coat slightly revealing a perfectly
formed, ample bosom.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)

They were perfect and ripe. They
were like food for my eyes
plucked down from a tree in the
Garden of Eden and I could taste
them in my mouth.

Steve gazes at it a bit too long and looks back at the road
just in time to swerve the car.

He composes himself and tries to focus on the road but his eyes are drawn helplessly back to the rearview just in time to lock into a pair of stunning eyes with mischief and a saucy twinkle staring right back at him. Steve starts breathing heavier

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)

Yeah, there was no doubt. She wasn't just up for it. She was hunting it down. I couldn't believe my luck. You drive for years and years and you dream of stuff like this and here it was happening right in my cab. So I made up my mind right then and there and just...

ANDY (V.O.)

Ow!

5 INT. BARBERSHOP - AFTERNOON

5

Norman is staring, spellbound at Steve. However, the clipper in Norman's hand is still buzzing at the back of Andy's head.

Norman looks down and jumps slightly at what he's done to the back of Andy's head.

ANDY

That hurt.

NORMAN

Don't be all girly now.

ANDY

Am I bleeding?

NORMAN

No, no. It's fine. Just needs a bit of evening out.

Norman does look a bit concerned though.

HERBERT

Will you two shut it!
(to Steve)
So go on.

STEVE

And just then the bloody phone goes off.

HERBERT

Let me guess. Your girlfriend.

6 INT. CAB - AFTERNOON

6

Steve has his earpiece in his ear. We hear the high speed sound of a chipmunk having a rant coming from it. He keeps nodding wearily and tries to get a word in edgewise but can't.

STEVE (V.O.)

It's like a sixth sense for her.
Somehow she knew what was in my
head and she just went off on
one.

In the back seat the Redhead also looks bored and displeased. Steve glances back, worried that the moment has been lost. The chipmunk sound gets louder and louder.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)

It was like she'd taken drugs and
helium at the same time. I didn't
know how much more I could take.

Steve looks down and sees his thumb moving as if by itself over his mobile and then with a snap it presses down and switches the phone off. The chipmunk cuts out. The silence is deafening. Steve sits staring straight ahead, his mouth slightly open. He can't believe what he's done.

7 INT. TRISH'S FLAT - AFTERNOON

7

Steve's girlfriend TRISH is also staring, open mouthed and angry, at the phone in her hand.

8 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY

8

Herbert, Norman and Andy are all paused, wide eyed, leaning forward, looking at Steve. He nods.

STEVE

I know. But I tell you, it was
worth it.

9 INT. CAB - AFTERNOON

9

The Redhead's saucy look is back and now she's leaning back in her seat with her head tilted and her lips parted. In Steve's rearview she's giving him the most full on, pre-coital look he's ever seen in his life.

STEVE (V.O.)

We just got it back in time.
There was no mistaking it now.

(MORE)

STEVE(cont'd)

All lights were green and the
road was clear.

The Redhead leans forward, taps on the partition glass and
with an arched, commanding smile, points down a small
alleyway.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)

Game on!

10 EXT. ALLEY - AFTERNOON 10

The car pulls to a stop next to wall of a building and
parks.

11 INT. CAB - AFTERNOON 11

Outside thunder bursts and it starts to rain. Steve turns
to look fully at the Redhead.

STEVE (V.O.)

This was going to be proper. The
was going to be the best. This
was going to be New Year's Eve,
Bonfire Night and Alton Towers
all rolled into one.

We ZOOM IN at hyperspeed to the Redhead's face and continue
deep into the blackness of her eyes.

A quick, hard hitting, jumpy blast of a techno version of
the "Can Can" starts up.

MONTAGE - snapshot stills:

- Redhead taking off Steve's shirt;
- Redhead taking off his trousers;
- Redhead and Steve having inventive contortionist sex:
- Redhead tying Steve's hands to each side of the cab as
he's lies back spread-eagled across the back seat.
- Redhead taking all the money out of Steve's wallet and
money box.

The Can Can stops.

12 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY 12

STEVE

I should have known. If something
seems too good to be true...it
bloody well is.

HERBERT

So it is.

STEVE

I didn't even know her name.

NORMAN

Sweet Lord above.

ANDY

(Lost in his own world)

I will always call her Monique.

STEVE

And that's right when SHE saw me.

13 EXT. ALLEY - AFTERNOON

13

CLOSE UP just behind the high-heel booted legs of a woman watching the Redhead step out of Steve's cab with tousled hair and a "cat that had the cream" look on her face. The Redhead smiles as she walks off.

HERBERT

Oh now, caught in the act.

STEVE

I can still see her standing
there swingin her broolly like a
samurai sword.

The legs walk up to the cab. The point of an umbrella stabs the ground with each step.

HERBERT

Your girlfriend?

NORMAN

Ouch.

STEVE

Worse. My girlfriend's mate,
Toxy.

14 INT. CAB - AFTERNOON

14

Steve is tied naked to the back seat of the cab with the point of an umbrella poking at his chest. Holding the umbrella is a short, evil looking brunette, TOXY.

STEVE (V.O.)

How was I supposed to know this
little alley way was a shortcut
she took home from work every
day?

Through the windshield we see the Redhead walking off. Toxy looks accusingly from the Redhead back to Steve.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
I told her the truth but things looked bad and she believed what she saw. She never liked me anyway and there was nothing I could do to change that now. She had me. But then she did something strange.

15 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY

15

ANDY
Did she spank you with the broolly? Mother used to do that and I hated it...still do.

NORMAN
Stop your damn fool nonsense.

HERBERT
So that's when she told your missus?

STEVE
Nah, that was the weird part. She could have grassed to my Trish right then but instead she told me to meet her at her flat later on that night. She said if I didn't, she'd make sure Trish knew every detail.

HERBERT
So what did you do?

16 INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE TOXY'S FLAT - NIGHT

16

We see the door to Toxy's flat open and Toxy looks smugly (at Steve) into camera.

STEVE (V.O.)
What could I do? Any man who can keep himself off Trish's bad side automatically adds years onto his life.

Steve enters the flat and the door closes behind him.

17 INT. TOXY'S FLAT - CONTINUOUS 17

Steve stands still, wary and uncertain as Toxy circles him in a very cat-and-mouse manner.

STEVE (V.O.)
Mind you. At the time it didn't
feel like I was getting any
younger.

ANDY (V.O.)
Um, excuse me. Excuse me.

18 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY 18

Steve looks over at Andy.

STEVE
Yeah?

ANDY
Didn't your girlfriend expect you
home? Didn't she get suspicious
with you hanging up and then not
coming home.

HERBERT
What you doing? You having a
thought are you Mr Sherlock
bloody Holmes? Leave it out.

STEVE
Actually he's right. I did have a
problem. You don't hang up on
Trish and stay out all night and
live to tell the tale.

ANDY
Thank you.

19 INT. CAB - EVENING 19

Steve's earpiece is in as he speaks to Trish on his mobile.

STEVE (V.O.)
I did call her and told her that
I must have run out of signal
before and that's why we got cut
off. I also told her that my mate
was off sick and I'd have to work
a double shift.

20 INT. TRISH'S FLAT - EVENING 20

CLOSE UP on Trish's mouth moving at very high speed in FAST-FORWARD as she rants at Steve.

STEVE (V.O.)

Well she was just not havin it.
She went bangin on about how
she'd had a whole night planned.
And wasn't I supposed to fix the
radio on her little car.

21 EXT. STREET OUTSIDE TRISH'S FLAT - EVENING 21

We see a small Fiat type car decorated on the inside with garish Chav type colors and dangling shiny things.

22 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY 22

STEVE

It's a nasty little piece of
work. I never liked small cars.

NORMAN

Me neither. Bad for my back.

HERBERT

Give me something with space any
day.

ANDY

Does my moped count as small?

NORMAN

Not compared to your brain.

ANDY

Oh good.

HERBERT

Let the man talk.

STEVE

I didn't like it but that little
runabout is her pride and joy.
And she kept on about was this
the way I was going to treat her?
Cause if it was she had half a
mind to get in her car and come
looking for me right away.

HERBERT & NORMAN & ANDY

Oooh!

STEVE

Exactly.

23 INT. TRISH'S FLAT - EVENING 23

CLOSE UP of Trish's long, talon like nails digging into a couch.

STEVE (V.O.)

She was working herself right up.
But I had no choice so I told her
I'd sort something out.

24 INT. CAB - EVENING 24

Steve dials another number on his mobile.

STEVE (V.O.)

There was only one person in the
world I knew could keep Trish
under control.

25 INT. FLOWERSHOP - EVENING 25

A thin, bitchy, and effeminately cruel looking 20ish man,
DARREN picks up the phone.

STEVE (V.O.)

Trish's other mate, Darren. Queer
as muck. Bent as an Arab's dagger
and twice as sharp but I was up
against it. I needed him to keep
Trish indoors all night.

Darren strikes a "And what's in it for me?" pose.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)

Little bastard put the screws to
me too. He'd do it alright but
his flower business was a little
slow so it was going to cost me a
ton for his baby sitting
services.

26 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY 26

Andy is looking confused in the mirror at Norman who rolls
his eyes and leans forward and whispers.

NORMAN

That's a hundred pounds.

STEVE

Too right it is. Not only was I out a day's wage but now Toxy had me at the mercy of her twisted little mind.

HERBERT

Well what did she want?

STEVE

She didn't say straight off. She asked me about the first time I ever met her and Trish.

27 INT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT 27

Toxy and Trish are dancing on the dance floor. Steve sees them from the bar. Trish ignores Steve's glance but Toxy doesn't. She subtly pulls Trish off the floor and over to Steve. She smiles coyly and starts flirting.

STEVE (V.O.)

Now I never told this to Trish but actually, when I thought about it, it was Brenda who first started chatting.

28 INT. NIGHTCLUB - LATER 28

Steve and Trish are in a clinch at the bar as a bored Toxy stands sullenly by as music thumps in the background.

STEVE (V.O.)

By the end of the evening though, I was with Trish.

29 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY 29

Andy's eyes are closed and he's still nodding his head to the club music. Norman taps the back of his head irritably.

HERBERT

What's that have to do with anything?

30 INT. TOXY'S FLAT - EVENING 30

Toxy advances on Steve who backs up fearfully.

STEVE (V.O.)

I didn't know either until Toxy asked why I'd gone for Trish instead of her.

Toxy is now almost pressed right into Steve.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
She got right up in my gob asking
if I thought I was too good for
her? She was in a real lather and
then it all became clear.

Steve has backed up into Toxy's bedroom. Toxy looks at the
bed and then back at Steve, her intentions are obvious.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Toxy wasn't put out because I'd
had it off with the Redhead. She
was bothered that I hadn't yet
with her. She told me that either
I made up for it now or she'd
tell Trish everything. And there
was one other thing.

Toxy walks over to a video camera on a tripod and takes off
the lens cap. Steve is now wide eyed.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
She was going to video the whole
thing so that any time in the
future that she felt like a
little afternoon delight, I'd
have to serve it up or else...

31 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY

31

ANDY
Two women in two days?

NORMAN
Making that twice as much sex
with twice as many women as
you've ever had.

ANDY
It's not fair.

HERBERT
What's not fair is having to
listen to your drivel instead of
this story.

Herbert does a slight double take as he's noticed for the
first time that Norman is really taking off rather more of
Andy's hair than usual. Norman catches Herbert's look and
points warningly to the bald patch he accidentally put on
the back of Andy's head earlier.

NORMAN

Just smoothing things out, you hear.

(To Steve)

Go on son. What did you do?

32 INT. TOXY'S FLAT - NIGHT

32

The camera pans around Toxy. We only see her chest and face. She's wearing sexy lace lingerie.

STEVE (V.O.)

Well there was nothing else to do, except Toxy. And at first I thought it'd be simple bit of whamm bamm.

We CUT TO a wider shot and reveal that Toxy is astride Steve who is naked on all fours on the floor wearing fluffy bunny ears.

She raises a riding crop high and brings it down on his back side with a crack. We hear a rumbling, sexy Marilyn Manson-ish version of the William Tell Overture starting up.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)

She had other ideas, let me tell you. I was a stranger in a strange land. Nothing could have prepared me for...

WENDY (V.O.)

Herbert!

The William Tell Overture grinds to a halt.

33 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY

33

The bell over the door to the barbershop rings as WENDY, Herbert's wife walks in. She is a 50 year old, no nonsense type. The men are all flustered.

HERBERT

Wendy! What have I said about disturbing me while I'm at work.

WENDY

Oh I know, I know, if your wife walks into your barber shop I'll be interfering with your wild drunken orgies and the whole shop will come tumbling down.

HERBERT

That's not funny. You're interrupting in my place of business.

WENDY

Monkey business if I know you and Norman.

NORMAN

Now sweetheart that's no way to talk about the man who loves you.

Wendy goes to Norman and gives him an affectionate peck on the cheek.

WENDY

I know Norman. But I'm allowed to speak my mind about my old humbug here aren't I? Anyway, what am I interrupting that's so important?

ANDY

Steve was telling us about having to...ow!

Andy looks angrily back at Norman.

ANDY (cont'd)

That really hurt! You did that on purpose this time.

NORMAN

Just a slip of the hand. Now don't talk too much or my hand might slip again.

HERBERT

Wendy, do you have something to do or are you just intent on ruining the whole day.

WENDY

I've brought you some soup.

Wendy takes out a tupperware box and leaves it on a counter.

HERBERT

Soup! Have you lost your mind? You know I'll be having a pie at the Hogshead right next door.

WENDY

It's not for you. It's for Andy. His mother called.

(MORE)

WENDY(cont'd)

She was worried he might be
hungry and asked if I could bring
him some broth.

The men all look at Andy.

ANDY

Are there any crackers?

WENDY

Right here love.

Wendy puts some crackers next to the soup.

WENDY (cont'd)

Right well I'll leave you stud-
muffins to your football and
cars.

She gives Herbert a kiss and walks out. The men all stare
at Andy again.

HERBERT

Maybe she should have changed
your nappy as well.

ANDY

I like a bit of broth. It helps
me sleep.

NORMAN

I'll put you to sleep permanently
if you don't stop your damn fool
nonsense you overgrown milk-
feeder.

HERBERT

(To Steve)

Right now, young man, you were
telling us about some of Toxy's
um, ideas?

34 INT. TOXY'S FLAT - NIGHT

34

The grungy William Tell Overture starts up again.

CLOSE UP on Steve's face, very still as if he's trying to
comprehend a bizarre instruction he's just been given.

STEVE (V.O.)

Oh she had ideas alright. She
should have been a bleeding
scientist. She had moves I'd not
come across before or since.

FAST FORWARD MONTAGE - Of Steve and Toxy in various poses.

- Steve gallops around the room with the Bunny ears as Toxy straddles him.
- Steve does a headstand as Toxy straddles him.
- TOXY has her hands on the ceiling as Steve stands carrying her with her legs on his shoulders and his head between her thighs;
- Toxy swings round and round from a low hanging chandelier as Steve lies below her on the dining table and spins her like a top.
- Steve sits up on his haunches begging for a carrot that Toxy dangles over him.
- Steve jumps around the room fleeing Toxy who chases him wearing a fox mask.

The William Tell Overture crashes to a stop.

35

INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY

35

Herbert, Norman and Andy are all gazing at some distant point on the ceiling, completely mesmerised by the images in their heads. Herbert's scissors are several inches above Steve's head still snipping at air.

STEVE

Yeah. I'd been through the wars.
It was like being in a pie eating
contest if you can't stand pie.

ANDY

Ooh I'd like a bit of...

HERBERT

No!

NORMAN

No!

STEVE

I suppose it could have been
worse and when all was said and
done I'd learned a few tricks.
But that's when it all when
wrong. Tired as I was, I should
have listened out for footsteps.
But my ears were ringing as it
was and I didn't hear a thing
until I saw the face.

(beat)

I'll never forget that face.

HERBERT

Ah, so that's when Trish caught
you out.

NORMAN

And gave you a safety deposit box
out the back of your head.

STEVE

Trish? Nah mate. If that'd been
my gal I'd be at the undertaker
not the barbers right now.

HERBERT

So who's face was it?

36 INT. TOXY'S FLAT, BEDROOM - NIGHT

36

CLOSE UP on the huge, slab-like face of MAL, a towering,
doorway filling man.

STEVE (V.O.)

That face, my friend, was the
arse end of a buffalo sat up top
a tank.

CUT TO a long shot revealing a thunderously angry Mal
standing in the doorway of Toxy's bedroom looking at Toxy
and Steve, prostrate on the bed.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)

Now, Mal was not the quickest dog
round the track but even he knew
what had just happened.

37 INT. TOXY'S FLAT, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

37

We see Steve flying into frame and landing on the floor
with a thud. Mal follows close after and picks him up by
the neck.

STEVE (V.O.)

And he was not pleased.

CLOSE UP of Steve's feet kicking as they dangle off the
floor.

CLOSE UP of Mal's hand around Steve's neck. The bunny ears
are still spilling over Steve's face as it turns blue.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)

I thought that was it. He'd
completely lost it. He kept
screaming who was the bunny? I
wasn't the bunny. He was the
bunny.

(MORE)

STEVE(cont'd)

He was always the bunny and all I could think was he could be the flippin Easter Rabbit for all I cared. I just wanted to breathe again.

A frying pan hits the back of Mal's head. Steve drops back down to the ground.

Mal hasn't been knocked out though and holds his head as he turns to face Toxy who placates him and makes him bend down as she says something in his ear.

38

INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY

38

HERBERT

What was saying? What could she possibly have said to stop him?

ANDY

Did she offer to give him chocolate?

STEVE

What?

ANDY

Well you said he liked the Easter Bunny.

STEVE

No mate. That's not quite what I was...uh...

Steve turns to look at Andy and now notices that Andy has indeed had a significant amount of hair taken off. Norman catches Steve's eye and shakes his head.

ANDY

What?

STEVE

Uh, nothing.

HERBERT

So what did she tell him?

STEVE

If I'd known what that evil, twisted minx was telling King Kong, I'd have taken the frying pan to her head and let him finish what he'd started.

NORMAN

That bad? What could have been worse than dying?

STEVE
Being sent to Ivan.

NORMAN
Who's Ivan?

39 EXT. STREET - NIGHT

39

We come OUT OF BLACK as Steve walks away from camera towards a dingy building on a dark street.

STEVE (V.O.)
The only man sick enough to
frighten a mountain of muscle
like Mal.

Steve walks up to a door, carrying what looks like a hat box, and knocks. Nobody answers. He knocks again. Still no answer. He knocks a third time and a panel slides back and a face appears. Steve holds up the box.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
But I'd no choice. The only way
to keep my head attached to my
shoulders was to do a simple
little job - Mal's job. He was
supposed to take a package, God
only knows what was in it, to
Ivan. Problem was, Mal had just
come out of Her Majesty's
lodging's and if he got done
again he'd be in for a good long
stretch. So it was down to me.

The door opens and Steve steps inside.

40 INT. IVAN'S PLACE - CONTINUOUS

40

Steve is standing in a dark hallway looking up at a man even bigger than Mal. We don't even see his head.

STEVE (V.O.)
That should have been my warning
right there. If Ivan was enough
to scare Mal, what was he gonna
to me?

A hand reaches down from the top of the frame and points down a corridor.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Turns out that wasn't Ivan. That
was just his doorman.

Steve walks down a corridor and passes a doorway. Inside are three men sitting at a table cleaning their guns. Steve pauses, transfixed. The men look up and stare back. Steve quickly continues on his way.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
I was not in good company but I
thought if I just kept cool and
handed over the package I'd be on
my way, free and clear.

Steve looks into another doorway and sees a stunning woman who looks up, sees Steve, and recognizing him, looks shocked. It's the Redhead who tied him up and stole his money.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Well I thought maybe my luck was
about to change.

From the POV of the doorway, looking up from the floor, we see Steve drop his box, walk up to the Redhead, grab her by the shoulders and start demanding his money.

A man's shoe steps into frame. The man watches Steve having a go at the Redhead.

CLOSE UP on the man's face. This is IVAN and he's deadly upset at what he sees.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
And I was right.

MED SHOT Ivan picks up a golf club and advances directly into camera.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
It was about to get worse.

Ivan pulls the club back and swings forward right into the camera.

41 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY

41

ANDY
And that's how you got your scar.

HERBERT
Hang on. No it isn't.

NORMAN
His woman gave it him.

STEVE
Oh yeah, Ivan couldn't give me
this.

42 INT. IVAN'S PLACE - NIGHT

42

From behind we see Ivan full length and see, for the first time that he's all of 4 feet tall.

STEVE (V.O.)
Not without a stepladder.

Ivan's golf club catches Steve full in the leg just above the knee.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Mind you, he is the reason I
still have a limp.

Steve screams and goes down, clutching at the Redhead who falls down on top of him. Ivan tries to land another blow but the Redhead is in the way.

With all the screaming the three men from the other room run in waving their guns. They point them at Steve and scream. Steve looks up, sees the guns and starts screaming even more.

Ivan takes another swing but this time catches the Redhead's backside. She screams, disentangles herself from Steve, and turns furiously on Ivan. As she rants we hear an indistinguishable Slavic language coming out in a bizarre, almost inhuman, rasping voice. Steve stares at the sound coming out of her mouth.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Now I'd already seen some strange
things today but this...it was
like Sleeping Beauty opened her
mouth and Gollum started talking.

Ivan and the rest of the men cower before her fury. She points to Steve and pulls out his stolen wallet and throws it at Ivan.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
And whatever it was she was
saying to Ivan was enough to cut
him down to size.

The Redhead finally calms down. Steve gets up from the floor. Ivan walks over to the box that Steve dropped. He feels around the bottom and presses a release. A hidden drawer slides out revealing bags and bags of a white powder. Ivan takes the drawer out from the box. The men gather around the bags.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
I'd already seen more than I'd
wanted to and this was definitely
too much. But it wasn't like I
could just up and leave.

As Steve tries to make his way to the door he stoops to pick up his wallet which the Redhead steps on. He looks up at her and leaves his wallet alone. Ivan brings the box to the Redhead. She opens the top and looks inside with happy anticipation. We see her from below as from inside the box. Her anticipation dissolves into disappointment and then quickly becomes rage.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Believe it or not. Them bags
weren't the most important things
in the box.

She reaches in the box and pulls out a wig. A blond wig. She holds it in front of her advancing on Ivan who looks at it with disbelief. She shakes the blond wig and points to her own red hair. She is well angry.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Ivan the terrible may have got
the bags he wanted but he'd got
his colors mixed up. And that was
going to cost him.

Ivan gestures that it's not his fault and points wildly to Steve who shakes his head and begins backing up. The Redhead throws the blond wig at Steve who catches it and stumbles backwards.

She then rips her own red hair right off making her a terrifying, vengeful bald sight. Steve's eyes almost pop out of his head.

The Redhead then grabs one of the guns lying about and starts swinging it around which sends all the men scrambling out of the room.

Shots ring out.

We see the front door to Ivan's place. After a moment Steve comes bursting through it and runs straight at the camera. In his hand he's still clutching the blond wig.

44 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY 44

NORMAN

So it was a bullet did that to
the back of your head?

STEVE

A bullet? No mate. She may have
been fierce but her aim was worse
than her hair.

45 EXT. STREET OUTSIDE TRISH'S FLAT - NIGHT 45

Steve stands in front of Trish's building, still clutching
the blond wig. He drops the wig and starts climbing the
stairs to Trish's flat.

STEVE (V.O.)

My girl, she may have had her
faults but she'd never tied me
naked to the back of my cab, or
made me wear bunny ears or used
me for target practice.

ANDY (V.O.)

Wish I could say the same for
mother.

HERBERT

Shut up Andy!

NORMAN

Shut up Andy!

Steve lets himself into the flat.

46 INT. TRISH'S FLAT - CONTINUOUS 46

STEVE (V.O.)

When I got back to Trish's that
night I felt I'd learned a
lesson.

Steve turns a corner, looks down the hallway and sees
Darren and Trish having sex on the bed.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)

I learned that that two-faced,
back stabbing, mincing Darren
wasn't Queer at all.

Steve stares in stunned disbelief.

47 EXT. STREET OUTSIDE TRISH'S FLAT - CONTINUOUS 47

Steve comes storming out the front door.

STEVE (V.O.)

I also learned that you couldn't trust anybody, anytime, anywhere and that everybody I knew felt they could do anything they wanted to me. Well no more. I was gonna get Trish where it hurt her the most.

Steve stares at Trish's car. He strides towards it and on the way he picks up the blond wig from the footpath.

48 INT. TRISH'S CAR - NIGHT 48

Steve is driving Trish's car at high speed.

STEVE (V.O.)

It was like for the first time in my life I was really using my eyes.

49 EXT. STREET - NIGHT 49

The car comes to a stop.

50 INT. TRISH'S CAR - CONTINUOUS 50

Steve sits staring straight ahead. He revs the engine.

From behind him we see a clear road ahead and a series of speed cameras going into the distance.

STEVE (V.O.)

And the path before me was clear. I knew what I had to do.

He reaches beside him, grabs the blond wig and puts it on.

He guns the engine and pulls out with screeching tires.

51 EXT. STREET - NIGHT 51

The car fires past all the speed cameras. Each one goes off in SLOW MO with a huge explosive flash.

52 INT. TRISH'S CAR - NIGHT 52

As Steve drives, highway lights and the flashes of speed cameras shine on to his face, glinting off the blond wig.

STEVE (V.O.)

For the first time all day I felt like a man.

53 INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY

53

Herbert, Norman and Andy are on tenterhooks.

HERBERT

So what happened then?

STEVE

After I'd done every camera on the M25...twice, I parked the car back in front of Trish's and made my way home.

NORMAN

And all those cameras took pictures of long blond hair in the driver's seat, so she got all the points.

STEVE

Not just all the points. Every point, her license revoked and 3000 pounds fine. They even seized the car.

ANDY

Wasn't she upset?

STEVE

Upset? A volcano gets upset. A bull in front of a red cape gets upset. My Trish, she did worse. She got even.

HERBERT

How did she know it was you.

54 INT. STEVE'S FLAT - DAY

54

Steve enters his flat and picks up the mail from the floor. He notices one letter in particular.

STEVE (V.O.)

Oh I'm sure she suspected right off but the thing I hadn't counted on was just how good some of them new cameras are.

Steve opens an envelope and takes out a picture.

CLOSE UP on the picture. It very clearly shows Steve in a blond wig behind the wheel of Trish's car, screaming like a madman.

STEVE (V.O.) (cont'd)
They really take a very clear picture.

Steve's eyes widen fearfully. Over his shoulder and slightly out of focus, a figure steps into view and creeps up on him holding something like an iron bar. It takes a huge back swing. Steve looks up from the picture.

We hear a whooshing sound and CUT TO BLACK.

55

INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY

55

Herbert takes the cloth off Steve. The haircut is finished.

STEVE (V.O.)
The doctors said they were surprised I could be stitched back up. Guess my head's harder than I thought.

Steve gets up from the chair and goes to Herbert who has moved to the cash register.

HERBERT
But why did you get your haircut today?

STEVE
I'm getting married.

NORMAN
Married? To...to...

STEVE
To Trish.

ANDY
After what she did to you?

STEVE
Well, I was no angel either. The only difference between us was that she got caught. Anyway, she came to visit me in the hospital and we sorted it out.

(MORE)

STEVE(cont'd)

I told her why I'd done it and she...well...she said a lot of things which I don't exactly remember but at the end she thought the best solution was for us to get hitched and would any of you had said no to her?

HERBERT

I would used skywriting.

NORMAN

Announced it on radio.

ANDY

She'd marry me?

STEVE

Tell you what, she's right outside. Why don't I bring her in and you can tell her exactly what you lot think of the whole thing?

NORMAN

No need for that!

HERBERT

Er...no ladies in the shop lad. Sort of a rule.

STEVE

(Smiles knowingly)
I'll be seeing you gents.

Steve leaves the shop.

NORMAN

Watch yourself now.

HERBERT

Good luck to you.

ANDY

Do you think she has a sister?

HERBERT

Any sister of hers would probably have sex with you and then wrap you up in her web and eat you.

Andy turns and looks in the mirror. It takes a second but then he notices that Norman has shaved him bald.

THE END