"CATERING FOR KIDNAP"

Written by

Luke Prince

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All usage queries, please contact;

Mail@lukeprince.com
07758836167
EXT. EMPTY CAR PARK - COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Fields stretch for miles around; a gravelled car park holding one car the only life for miles.

A lone man stands by his car, staring towards the road entering the car park. Another car enters slowly, parking near to his vehicle. This is KEN.

KEN takes a few paces towards the arriving vehicle. He is not happy.

Two men exit. FRANKIE, a short man with glasses, who walks to meet KEN, and PADDY, a tall skinny man with a vacant expression who stays not far from his passenger door.

KEN
You’re late.

FRANKIE
Yeah sorry. We had to go slowly didn’t we. Didn’t want her bumping her head.

KEN seems impatient.

KEN
You’re not taking her on a package holiday Frankie. I don’t really give a damn about her bumping her head.

FRANKIE
Oh. Right. I figured concussion would hinder the interviewing process.

KEN
Don’t get wise Frankie. You’re half an hour late.

FRANKIE smirks as he laughs to himself.

FRANKIE
Sorry-

KEN
I have hayfever. It’s like making Superman meet you at a kryptonite factory. And then being late.

FRANKIE
I said I’m sorry!

KEN
You need to start being a bit more professional.
FRANKIE mocks offence, turning back to look at PADDY.

FRANKIE
Don’t question our professionalism
Ken. We do this for a living.

PADDY
We’re awesome at it. You tell him
Frankie.

PADDY jumps around, seeming excited at a final chance to give some input.

KEN
I’m sure you are. You’re like the
Morecombe and Wise of kidnapping,
that’s for sure.

PADDY
I don’t even where glasses.

FRANKIE
Ignore him Paddy. He’s just jealous
he’s just the go between. Doesn’t get the thrill of the kidnap. The
thrill of the chase.

KEN
I’m sure you may find chasing
teenage girls through the woods a
rewarding pass-time Frankie, but
I’m fine being a go between.

PADDY
It wasn’t the woods; chased her round a caravan.

FRANKIE
Ok, Paddy.

KEN
Where is she?

FRANKIE turns to PADDY, nodding. They’ve pre-planned where to go with this.

FRANKIE
We want our money first.

PADDY
Up front.

KEN
Right, ok. Want to prove you even have her first?

FRANKIE
You don’t think we have her?
KEN
I don’t see her.

FRANKIE
He thinks we’re lying Paddy.

KEN
I’m just saying that I don’t see her.

FRANKIE
You hear that Paddy? He thinks we’ve put some pillows in a bag and tried to pass it off as a bird.

PADDY
What a dick.

KEN
Alright then jokers. Where is she then?

FRANKIE turns away from KEN and begins to walk towards the car. KEN follows.

FRANKIE
This way; oh ye of little faith.

The trio all stop round the back of the car. By the boot.

PADDY
You show him Frankie.

FRANKIE holds KEN’s gaze; smirking as he unlocks the boot of the car. The boot opens. There is a silence. KEN and PADDY both frowning.

FRANKIE turns to look.

The boot is full of bags of food. But no girl is to be seen.

KEN
So... Where is she?

There is a pause.

FRANKIE
She was...

KEN
Did she turn into crisps lads? Is that it?

FRANKIE
Paddy. Where’s the girl?

PADDY scratches his head.
FRANKIE (CONT’D)
Paddy. Did you...?

PADDY
What?

FRANKIE
Did you put the girl in the boot?

PADDY
I thought you were doing that.

Pause.

KEN
Oh Christ.

FRANKIE
You thought I was doing it?

PADDY
It was your job to pack the girl wasn’t it?

FRANKIE
My job?! How the fuck was it my job Paddy? I’m driving the fucking car.

PADDY
I was on the snacks.

FRANKIE
Snacks??!

PADDY
Yeah I pack the snacks. You pack the girl.

Pause.

FRANKIE
So you packed all these snacks. And then just left the girl. Because you thought I was going to load her in?

PADDY
Yeah. There’s some onion rings in there if you want some.

FRANKIE
I don’t want any onion rings Paddy -

PADDY
Ken?

FRANKIE
PADDY! Did you leave her there?
KEN
I was on snacks!

FRANKIE
You’re a kidnapper Paddy. Not the catering!

FRANKIE turns away from PADDY in exasperation. KEN focuses on him, ignoring PADDY.

KEN
What happened?

FRANKIE
We stopped at Asda.

**Asda is a UK Supermarket**

KEN
Asda...?

FRANKIE
Yeah Paddy wanted some food for when we got here. So we went there and bought it all.

KEN
Ok, so I’m guessing the girl was in the car at that point?

FRANKIE
Yeah.

KEN
So...? What the hell happened?

FRANKIE
Well we bought quite a lot. So. We kind of needed to get her out of the boot to fit it all in.

KEN
And you what – You just didn’t put her back in?!

FRANKIE
It wasn’t me! He was meant to put her back!

KEN
Did you not fucking notice?!

FRANKIE
The car still felt pretty heavy ok.

KEN
Yeah, because you’ve got half a weeks shopping in there!
There is a silence. Out of view to the other two, PADDY has pulled out a mobile phone.

KEN (CONT’D)
So you’ve left a bound kidnap victim... in an Asda carpark.

FRANKIE
Yeah...

PADDY
Hi, is that Asda?

FRANKIE and KEN turn to PADDY, who is on his mobile phone.

PADDY (CONT’D)
Hi yeah. Basically, I was wondering if there had been a girl left in your car park by accident. She’s all tied up, got duck tape and such on her. Bit bruised.

FRANKIE and KEN’s mouths fall open.

PADDY listens, before grinning and putting his thumb up.

PADDY (CONT’D)
Oh that’s awesome. Thought we’d lost her. Don’t untie her, we’ll come back and get her init.
(pause)
So do we come to lost property to collect her or what?
(pause)
Sorted. See you in about half an hour. Any problems just call this number back. Didn’t withhold it. Names Paddy. Me or my mate Frankie will come pick her up.
(pause)
Cheers.

PADDY hangs up the phone.

PADDY (CONT’D)
Sorted lads. Asda still got her!

FRANKIE and KEN look at him in angered confusion.

PADDY (CONT’D)
What?

END

CREDITS.