

The Bilker © 2022 John Stone.

This work is based upon Antony Gormley's London Space Exhibition and is an observation comedy.

The Bilker

By

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LONDON. ENGLAND.

FADE IN:

TOPOGRAPHICAL VIEW. NIGHT.

A black iconic Taxi drives through the deserted city,
during a thunderstorm.

A tall, athletically built BRONZE FIGURE darts across the
thoroughfare, then hails the Taxi.

Beat.

EXT. TAXI - NIGHT.

The Taxi pulls over to the side of the road.

The faceless BRONZE FIGURE gleams as it is caught in the
Taxi's headlights.

The BRONZE FIGURE leaps into the rear of the TAXI and
slams the door shut.

Beat.

INT. TAXI.

CU: The DRIVER'S small tired eyes narrow as he stares
through his rear-view mirror.

DIVER

Where to?

BRONZE FIGURE

(Amplified)

Tate Modern.

CU: DRIVER resets fare meter.

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DIVER OS

Let's go.

EXT. TAXI.

Taxi pulls off again.

BRONZE FIGURE V.O

I will collect a parcel then
return to Waterloo Bridge.

DIVER V.O

No problem.

Beat.

INT. TAXI.

City lights flash through the window as the BRONZE FIGURE sits frozen like a statue.

Taxi stops outside the building.

BRONZE FIGURE exits the vehicle, then quickly disappears.

DRIVER switches off the engine and begins to read the newspaper as he waits, and waits...

CU: Fare meter reads 132.00

DRIVER angrily discards newspaper and sighs, then switches on the engine and spins the vehicle around as he heads off again.

CUT TO:

TOPOGRAPHICAL VIEW OF WATERLOO BRIDGE - NIGHT.

The Taxi can be seen entering the bridge.

INT. TAXI.

The DRIVER rubs his eyes as his vision becomes impaired, during a wave of bright lights.

As his vision regains focus, he spots the BRONZE FIGURE standing motionless on the bridge.

DRIVER
(*Furiously*)
Gotcha!

He accelerates at speed towards the BRONZE FIGURE, then screeches to a stop beside him.

EXT. TAXI.

DRIVER climbs out of his vehicle then rushes towards him.

DRIVER (CONT'd)
Right! Pay up, Bilker!

The BRONZE FIGURE stands inaudible, frozen, and dripping head to toe in rainwater.

The defeated DRIVER, begins to laugh hysterically as he throws his hand upon the shoulder of the BRONZE FIGURE.

DRIVER (CONT'd)

Get me home.

The End