

Foul Play

written by

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A Film Short

(c)

FADE IN:

EXT. BLUE STAR CAFE - DAY

Casually dressed JACK DIAMOND 40s exits his PICK-UP TRUCK with his two lively SONS 6 & 4 years old. He key fobs the vehicle and holds their hands as he walks them towards the cafe.

INT. BLUE STAR CAFE - DAY

A smiling pony tailed WAITRESS 20s stands behind the counter when they enter.

WAITRESS  
(brightly)  
Good afternoon.

The two boys grin cheekily at her.

JACK DIAMOND  
Can we just get a flat white  
coffee and two cokes, no ice?

WAITRESS  
Of course you can.  
(pauses)  
If you take a seat, I'll fetch it  
to you.

JACK DIAMOND  
Actually, I need to use your wash  
room.

WAITRESS  
(points)  
It's just at the end of the  
corridor, through the double  
doors, through there.

JACK DIAMOND  
Thanks.  
(to Boys)  
Back in just a jiffy.

WAITRESS  
You're welcome.

JACK DIAMOND

Right, you two, sit here and behave yourselves for the kind lady. And don't give her any cheek while I'm gone.

(grins at Waitress)

They're saints really.

WAITRESS

Of course.

He exits through double doors. She turns to make the order.

CU: The Boys angelic faces as they sit and wait for their father to return.

The waitress brings their cokes to the table, along with a cup of coffee.

Beat.

Jack Diamond reenters and approaches the table. He gasps and his jaw drops when he freezes in position.

His POV: A vacated table where a coffee and two full glasses of coke remain untouched.

BACK TO SCENE.

Panicked, he immediately approaches the counter where the waitress serves a pink scarved female CUSTOMER 50s.

JACK DIAMOND /

Er-excuse me- excuse me?

Waitress glances over at him.

WAITRESS

One moment and I'll be straight with you.

JACK DIAMOND

Where are my boys? They've gone!

WAITRESS

(flushed)

Oh my god! I-I thought I-

JACK DIAMOND

For Christ sake where are my boys?!

WAITRESS

(dismayed)

But-but-but I saw you walk out  
the door with them one minute or  
so a go. They were with you, sir.

JACK DIAMOND

Why would I leave without  
paying?! Where are my kids,  
dammit?!

WAITRESS

You paid and left, sir. I saw you  
leave with them.

JACK DIAMOND

That's not possible, is it?! I've  
only just walked back in from  
using the wash room!

WAITRESS

Sir, please don't shout at me.  
You paid for the drinks and left  
with your boys. I clearly watched  
you walk out that door with them.

JACK DIAMOND

This is absurd!

WAITRESS

Sir, I watched you put them in  
your pick-up and drive off.

JACK DIAMOND

Then where are they?!

He quickly exits.

EXT. BLUE STAR CAFE - DAY

His eyes search the car park. He produces his car keys before  
he notices his vehicle missing.

He takes out his cellphone and makes an emergency call.

EMERGENCY OPERATOR \*

(female voice tone)

*What is your emergency?*

JACK DIAMOND

(distressed)

My name is Jack Diamond. I'm at the Blue Star cafe on the A421 at the Beaconsfield Junction. My children have just been abducted.

(sobs)

I don't know what to do.

EMERGENCY OPERATOR \*

*Do you have a description of the children involved?*

JACK DIAMOND

Yes! They're my sons. One is six, and the other is four. They have blond hair and blue eyes.

EMERGENCY OPERATOR \*

*Can you tell me what they are wearing, sir?*

JACK DIAMOND

Yes. The smaller one has a yellow puffer jacket. The taller is Jacob- he's wearing a light blue sweater and white denims.

EMERGENCY OPERATOR \*

*At what time exactly were they abducted?*

JACK DIAMOND

Five to ten minutes ago-I don't know exactly, I was in the cloakroom in the cafe when somebody took them.

EMERGENCY OPERATOR \*

*There's a patrol car on its way to you now. In the meantime I would ask you not to panic as these situations often end well.*

JACK DIAMOND

Please hurry! Just find my kids, I beg you.

EMERGENCY OPERATOR \*

*We will do everything we can to find them, please don't worry.*

JACK DIAMOND

Oh Christ! I nearly forgot.

EMERGENCY OPERATOR \*

*Something else?*

JACK DIAMOND

Yes! My car has been taken also. Whoever abducted them must have stolen my car, otherwise they wouldn't have got in, I'm certain they would have screamed blue murder.

EMERGENCY OPERATOR \*

*What is the registration of the vehicle please?*

JACK DIAMOND

Tango, Oscar, Whiskey 0771.

EMERGENCY OPERATOR \*

*The patrol car should be with you now. Have a nice day.*

CLICK.

The PATROL CAR pulls in to the car park. Two Caucasian OFFICERS exit the vehicle.

A highly tormented Jack Diamond approached them.

INT. WASH ROOM - DAY

Jack Diamond stands at the sink unit and stares at his own distorted reflection as he splashes his bloodied face with water.

He wipes himself down then exits.

INT. BLUE STAR CAFE - DAY

Dazed and dishevelled, Jack Diamond reenters. He approaches the table.

HIS POV: The two Boys sit at the table and drink coke from a straw. The waitress smiles warmly at him as he sits down at the table and sips his coffee.

WAITRESS

Are you okay, sir? I was getting worried. I thought something had happened to you.

JACK DIAMOND

(to Waitress)

You should get those floor tiles cleaned. I had a nasty accident while I was in there.

WAITRESS

Oh, I am so sorry. Are you okay, sir?

JACK DIAMOND

I am now, thankfully.

FADE OUT.

THE END