

FADE IN:

EXT - NORTH CIRCULAR ROAD -- MORNING

(M25) SOMEWHERE NEAR BRENT CROSS, DULL GREY SKY, DRIZZLE, SWEEP CLOUD, LOOKING OUT THROUGH RAINSWEEP CAR WINDOWS; A STEEL-GREY PORSCHE CARRERA 911 OVERTAKES OUR CAR, THE DRIVER A MIDDLEAGED GREYHAIRD MAN. WAITING BEHIND HIM AT A RED LIGHT WHILE TRAFFIC PASSES, SKIP-LORRIES AND A BUS, A BELGIAN TOUR COACH AND A CONTAINER LORRY BEARING THE NAMES OF ITS FRENCH OWNERS. LOOKING LEFT, WE SEE A KINETIC SCULPTURE OF CAR TYRES, EXHAUST PIPES, HUBCAPS, ALL SWINGING IN THE WIND, LIKE A HUMAN FIGURE, HUBCAP KNEES, A TYRE FACE CONTAINING RED BRAKE-LIGHT EYES AND WING-MIRROR EARS. A DOOR FOR A CHEST, AND ON IT PAINTED:

fff

BREAKER

BODYPARTS

READY CASH

200 YARDS

Our rainswept windscreen blurs; the light changes and the Carrera pulls off, popping its exhaust like a bass booster Following, our car pulls alongside a lorry a container articulated rig, driver perched above, his round face under a woolly hat smiling. Brownhaired, about 30, stocky, browneyed. On the cab door we read

R. ASPEN

HAULAGE CONTRACTORS

BARKING ESSEX

Now, viewing our car inside for the first time, we see the faces nearest our own the front seat passenger, a man wearing a yellow leather jacket decorated with beads in the flags various countries (prominent, Jamaica, Angola, Cuba, South Africa, Vietnam...) his hair dreadlocked.....One love

The driver, a woman whose own pony tailed hair and baseball cap, denim jacket and pendant earrings all put together are odd as if she was between a dance and going to work as we shall see she is.....Susie

CUT TO INSIDE PORSCHE, DASHBOARD COMPUTER SCREEN:

TO THE MUSIC OF `CARMINA BURANA' THE GREYHAIRD MAN (DR. FELL) PULLS DOWN A TOOLBAR ONSCREEN:

Insert patient data for tissue match search

=compulsory field Age [Years-Months]: _ Weight [kgs]: _ Height [cms]: _ Blood Group*: _ Sex*_

Antigen spectrum* [G= immunoglobulin detected, V= organism detected] -By tissue type:

[LYMPH,]
 ([Whole Blood])
 ([Other please
 specify[____]])

-BY ANTIGEN TYPE:

([Nucleic Acids:
 RNA])
 ([Nucleic Acids:
 DNA])
 ([Bacterial envelope
 protein:
])
 ([Bacterial secretory
 protein:
])
 [Viral particles:
]_
 ([Other please
 specify:])

CUT TO RAINDROPS ON LORRY WINDOW, DRIVER IN CAB. His wellfed face above a bright yellow shirt, and a Coke can in one meaty hand, sipping.

MANS V.O.

..and lorries under loads above two tonnes per axle are being kept off the bridge approach roads while the apparent damage remains light as far as Hazel in the helicopter can see,... Hazel?

WOMAN V.O.

Well erm yes, Bruce, its outside my field of expertise really, I mean I'm not a structural engineer but I should say in all fairness the Thames River Police and the Metropolitan police teams are there, loadsa fire-engines , diggers and emergency vehicles too so I'd say the engineers are there.

(Pause)

Yes, righth. Well Bruce, Superintendent Paul Hunt the Incidents Officer there has confirmed, there are not going to be any lorries or coaches allowed, for another eight hours at least, that's Battersea bridge out for all excepting light vehicle traffic now, guys

MANS V.O

I see... Bad news for the Bank Holiday Coach trips then... This is Radio Cool FM

WOMAN V.O.

99.9 with all your traffic news
and the weather updates. Alright,
now its Elton and the track Debby
asked for for Alana and Peter,
Candle In The Wind... After the break
I'll be asking Diamond Black about
his new album Lowzy Loser

EXT. LAYBY -- CONTINUOUS

lorry pulling over, hardshoulder, off a busy roundabout;
somewhere M25. The driver's friendly smile for the
tradeplated hitch-hiker with rucksack, hoody top, jeans. This
is JOHNNY. LEAN, MUSCULAR, BLOND WITH ICY BLUE EYES AND A
DECEPTIVELY OPEN SMILE.

LORRY DRIVER

Going London mate?

JOHNNY

Yeah bruv, going Fulham , just
dropped a Jag down Dover Ferryport.
I got a lift off a bloke heading
for Croydon, dropped us off at
Watford Gap..

Johnny squints up at the driver.

DRIVER

All right pal, 'op in, I'm heading
that way. Got a display unit for
the Exhibition Centre in the back...

JOHNNY climbs up into cab, stows bag between feet, fastens
seatbelt as DRIVER pulls out into traffic

EXT-ALLEY OFF SPITALFIELDS--CONTINUOUS

THE PORSCHE SITS NEAR A CAFÉ FREQUENTED BY OFFDUTY MEDICS.
NEXT TO DOCTOR FELL SITS JOHNNY, PULLING A BIG METAL FLASK
OUT OF HIS RUCKSACK.

DOCTOR FELL

(SLIGHT GERMANIC ACCENT, PRECISE
PRONUNCIATION) It's there?

JOHNNY

It's there Doc. Right there. You
got my money?

DR. FELL

One moment please.

HE UNCLIPS THE FLASK TOP, TURNS, PULLS. A CLOUD OF FOG
DRIFTS UP AND THE DOCTOR PEERS DOWN INTO IT

JOHNNY

It's there... See?

DR. FELL

Ja, yes, will you please wait one moment. Yes. I see, ahhh... Yes.

QUICKLY REPLACES LID, TURNS, CLIPS DOWN LID. TURNING TO JOHNNY, SMILING NOW, HIS THIN HARD FACE LOOKING QUITE HAPPY

DR. FELL (CONT'D)

Ach so, now here are the thirty thousand pounds. As we agreed, yes? Please do count. Please make sure its all there. All right?

JOHNNY DOES SO. ANY SARCASM PLAINLY LOST ON HIM.

JOHNNY

Twennynine, thirty. Yo, Doc. Sweet as a nut.

DR. FELL TURNS THE CD UP AND 'DIE WALKURE' BOOMS OUT.

OVER THE MUSIC HIS VOICE IS STRONG, CHEERY, CONFIDENT.

DR. FELL

Good day to you, my young friend. I shall contact you when I have need for your service again. Same arrangement. Until then take care...
Hals und beinbruch, junge.

JOHNNY

Yeah seeya Doc.

HE GETS OUT OF CAR AND ZIPS BAG, SLINGS BAG ON SHOULDER AND JOINS LUNCHTIME MEDICAL AND MEATMARKET WORKERS WALKING THROUGH STREETS.

MANS V.O

News bulletin for Londoners on 99.9 Cool FM... Police are baffled by the third lorry driver slaying this month, after the mutilated body of Robert Aspen, 32, a father of two from Hackney, was found in his cab near Staples Corner early today..