

Piece 1 - Barry & Andrew

In the office at the start of the play, Barry has arrived with a box of printed flyers and it has split, dropping the contents on the floor. Andrew is under the desk trying to fix a desk fan.

BARRY Fuck a duck.

ANDREW emerges from underneath the desk.

ANDREW Alright?

BARRY Been to the printers.

ANDREW Oh yeah.

BARRY Yeah. Got the new flyers. Exhausted. Sweating like a fucking dyslexic on "Countdown"

ANDREW moves to BARRY and the pair begin to gather up the flyers.

ANDREW Indian Summer innit.

BARRY Not anymore 's not. Reckon y gotta call it "Native American Summer" these days.

ANDREW Did we ask for green?

BARRY What's that?

ANDREW They 're green, 's that what we asked for?

BARRY Colour of the scorpion.

ANDREW Is it?

BARRY 'cording to Neil.

ANDREW Neil?

BARRY Did the flyers.

ANDREW Reckons they're green?

BARRY Well some of 'em have gotta be.

ANDREW Right.

BARRY Darwin and that.

ANDREW It says tail.

BARRY What's that?

ANDREW I thought we'd agreed it should say tale?

BARRY You've lost me.

ANDREW As in L E? I thought we'd said that it should say-BARRY I thought it was tail as in tail. As in the tail of the scorpion.

ANDREW That's what I'm saying.

BARRY Right.

ANDREW D'you see what I'm saying?

BARRY No.

ANDREW I thought we'd agreed that it should say tale as in L E. As in, "Scorpion Claims: We'll find the sting in the tale".It's a play on words. Tale as in story. "We'll find the sting in the tale" as in we'll find the sting in the story.

BARRY inspects a flyer.

BARRY Fuck's sake.

ANDREW Don't worry about it.

BARRY Thing is.

ANDREW Go on.

BARRY Pretty big order.

ANDREW Go on.

BARRY Neil said he'd do us a deal.

ANDREW Bet he fucking did. How many?

BARRY Ten.

ANDREW Ten?

BARRY Boxes.

ANDREW How many's in a box?

BARRY Thousand.

ANDREW Barry, you tryina give me a fucking heart attack.

BARRY Get ten percent off. Order ten thousand, get ten percent off. Shall I bin 'em?

ANDREW Bin 'em?

BARRY Take 'em down charity shop.

ANDREW Fucking hell, Barry. No. We're not gonna bin 'em. And we're certainly not gonna give 'em to fucking Oxfam.

Beat.

Fan's on the blink.

BARRY What's that?

ANDREW Fan. 's fucked.

BARRY Tried turning it on and off?

ANDREW Nothing.

BARRY kin hell. Fucking roasting.

ANDREW Might nip to Greggs, fancy anything?

BARRY Already been. Thanks.

ANDREW Sly fucker.

BARRY Needed to re-hydrate. Got you a Yum Yum somewhere
(*BARRY checks his pockets*).

ANDREW How's Neve?

BARRY Yeah, not bad. Says hello.

ANDREW How's her eye?

BARRY 'Parently 's not infectious anymore.

ANDREW That's a relief. D'you get anything else?

BARRY Maybe.

ANDREW Go on.

BARRY Steak Bake.

ANDREW Barry, you dark fucking horse. How was it?

BARRY Yeah, magic t'be honest with ya.

ANDREW moves to a desk, gathers his keys, etc.

ANDREW Back in a bit.

Buzzer goes. ANDREW and BARRY freeze, as it were.

Hold the phone. You got anyone coming in?

BARRY (shakes his head)

Buzzer goes.

ANDREW Right. Shit. Look sharp, Barry.

ANDREW perhaps straightens his tie a little. Exit ANDREW. Buzzer goes again, slightly more sustained.

Piece 2 - Andrew, Kevin, Anne & Guy

Having been persuaded by Kevin to stage an accident for a fraudulent claim, Andrew and Kevin meet Anne and Guy

Andrew Is everyone warm enough?

Guy Fine. Thanks. **Anne** Toasty.

Andrew Why don't we go around and introduce ourselves?

Kevin What?

Andrew Say who we are and where we're from.

Kevin Alright, Cilla, fucking hell. 'Number one: what's yer name and where d'ya come from ...'

Anne It's polite.

Kevin No, yeah, mean – Just messing around.

Anne takes the torch from Andrew and holds it just below her face.

Anne My name's Anne. Black cab driver and lifelong Tory hater. Live in Batford. Husband's just been made redundant. Three daughters. (Luton Town.) Come on, you Hatters.

Anne passes the torch to Guy.

Guy Guy. Guy Haines. Run a professional mobile disco called Good Time Sounds. Uh, used to be a mechanic. Uh, yeah, thass it really.

Guy passes the torch to Kevin.

Kevin Kevin. Self-employed. Andrew and I were at school together. I am now married to a lovely lady named Jennifer who was in fact Andy's first lay.

Kevin is perhaps expecting some laughter, but there isn't any.

Bit of ... bit of trivia for y' there.

Kevin hands the torch to Andrew.

Andrew My name's Andrew and I work here at Scorpion Claims.

Kevin 'S that it?

Andrew Does anyone have any questions before we get started?

Beat. Andrew takes a map (perhaps from a drawer) and unfolds it across one of the desks. Andrew shines the torch on a particular spot.

Can everyone see? This roundabout here joins the B653, the A505 and Gypsy Lane. It's one mile from junction ten of the M1, a matter of metres from Luton Airport Parkway, and as such it's a bit of a black-spot; we've certainly represented claimants in the past who have had accidents in this spot. Crucially, the roundabout itself is a stone's throw away from a retail park housing, amongst others, Toys R Us, B&Q and Next. The plan will be that you, Guy, in a hired car, will be driver number one, out in front, and that you, Anne, will be driver number two, behind Guy in your TX4. You'll be waiting in the car park of the retail park, preferably as near to the exit as possible. As and when either of you spot an LCV departing, you make sure you glide in ahead and proceed toward the aforementioned roundabout. Guy, as you approach the roundabout, you will begin to slow down. Anne, likewise. Guy, you will then break suddenly, forcing Anne to do likewise. The TX4 goes into the back of the hire car and, assuming all is well, the LCV will go into the back of the TX4. Now, this is the bit we haven't talked about. How would you feel about getting cut out of your TX, Anne?

Kevin Oh!

Anne Cut out?

Andrew By the fire service.

Kevin This is fucking gold.

Anne Why?

Kevin This. Is. Fucking.

Andrew More money.

Kevin Gold.

Andrew Be quiet.

Anne But what about m' car?

Andrew It'll all be covered.

Guy Why a hire car?

Andrew Would you rather wreck your own car?

Anne Well, hold on a minute: muggins here is wrecking her own car.

Guy Fair point.

Anne Yeah, I'll say –

Kevin Anne –

Anne Nobody mentioned cutting out when –

Kevin Anne, my darlin' –

Anne I'm speaking. I've sat through enough bloody Casualty, believe you me, to know what happens when you start cutting people outta cars.

Kevin Anne –

Anne I'm still speaking. I'm just letting you know now: I'm not up for losing a fucking limb. Pardon my French. Kevin I'm not up for you losing a limb either, Anne; trust.

Guy Yeah, I have to say I think that would be a little unfair on Anne too.

Andrew No one's gonna lose anything, alright?

Anne (beat) Go on then, let's hear it.

Andrew What you'll have to do – No. What y'gonna have to do is t' ask Guy to call 999 on your behalf. You're frightened, there's a pain in your leg and you don't want to move. You're worried. Maybe you can even see some blood.

Anne Then what?

Andrew You wait. Happens all the time, promise ya.

Anne You mean w' fake accidents or real accidents?

Andrew Both.

Guy 'S there a passenger in the taxi?

Andrew No. **Kevin** Yes.

Kevin What?

Andrew There's not a passenger in the taxi.

Kevin But I thought we'd talked about –

Andrew There's isn't a passenger.

Anne I don't want a passenger.

Kevin 'S that little bit more cash-dollar though, Anne.

Anne I'm not doing it with a passenger.

Kevin You'd know 'em.

Anne Oh.

Kevin We're not talking about an actual passenger.

Anne I'd know 'em or you'd know 'em?

Kevin Up to you. Choice is yours, my darling.

Andrew No passenger.

*Andrew takes from a drawer a series of A4 handouts, e.g. three or four sides stapled together.
Andrew hands them out.*

There's more information on here. Much more detailed outline and so on.

It's too dark to see the paper, so everyone takes out their mobile telephones and uses the light from their screens to read.

If you turn to the second page, you'll see an outline of what needs to happen, what you need to do, on the day after the collision. There's no need to go over it all now, but the key thing to remember is that you mustn't go into work and you must, I repeat must go and see your GP.

Guy What about the evening? I've got a bar mitzvah.

Andrew You'll have to cancel it. But only on the day.

Guy They're gonna be gutted.

Anne Couldn't we go the day after the day after?

Piece 3 - Andrew, Kevin, Anne, Guy & Terri

Having been persuaded by Kevin to stage an accident for a fraudulent claim, Andrew and Kevin meet Anne and Guy in the office at night to plan the scam. Terri has entered wearing a cycle helmet.

Terri Sorry I'm late. Stopped off at the office.

Light resumes. For a moment, everyone finds it a little bright. Andrew turns off the torch.

Kevin What d'you get?

Terri Greene King.

Kevin What?

Anne IPA.

Kevin Less have a look.

Terri hands a can of Greene King IPA to Kevin.

Terri They brew it in Bury St Edmonds. 'S where the Magna Carta started.

Kevin What?

Terri Loada these barons met in the abbey in Bury St Edmonds and they drew up the first draft of the Magna Carta. Had a different title back then, but 's basically the same thing. Kevin Nice.

Beat. Terri begins to introduce herself.

Terri (to Guy) Hiya, alright, how y'doing?

Guy Guy. Nice helmet.

Terri shakes Guy's hand and continues to do so.

Terri Yeah, thanks. Borrowed it off Ray from church. Used to be well into his cycling till he got hit by that JCB an' that.

Guy nods; he has no idea how to respond. Guy breaks off the handshake.

Terri (to Anne) Hiya, alright.

Anne Hello, Terri, nice to meet you.

Terri and Anne begin to shake hands.

Terri Yeah no likewise.

Beat. Hand shaking continues.

Sorry, I didn't actually catch ya name?

Anne Anne.

Terri stops shaking Anne's hand and offers a hand to Andrew, which he doesn't accept.

Andrew Kevin, why don't you and Terri go and have a bit of a word?

Kevin What?

Andrew attempts a kind of covert 'look' to Kevin – i.e. 'We don't need a passenger; get rid of her.'

Kevin Mate, I dunno what y' on about?

Andrew Why don't you go and update Terri.

Kevin Still not with ya.

Andrew Fuck's sake – Terri, I'm sorry, there's been a bit of a mix-up. We don't need a passenger.

Kevin 'Kin hell. Yeah, look, sorry

Terri – Terri No, no, look, 's totally – 's totally –

Kevin Yeah, no, but listen, we are definitely gonna need –

Terri 'S fine, serious, 's totally fine. (Beat.) Nice t' meet you all.

Terri again shakes hands with Anne and Guy. It's a bit awkward, perhaps again it takes a touch too long. Terri holds out a hand for Andrew.

Anne Shake the girl's hand.

Andrew does so.

How big's ya bike, Terri?

Terri Whass that?

Anne If we can get it in the back o' me cab, give you a lift home if y'want?

Terri Get what in the back?

Anne (perhaps gestures to Terri's helmet) Y' bike.

Terri Haven't got a bike.

Anne ?

Terri Bang up a lift home though.

Anne Where y' heading?

Terri Marsh Farm.

Guy Blimey; no wonder y' wearing a fucking helmet.

Anne Go to church 'round there, do ya Terri?

Terri Holy Cross.

Anne Very nice.

Terri Coupla blindin' singers.

Anne Is that right. You sing?

Terri Yeah, little bit.

Anne What d'ya like t' sing?

Terri Hymns an' that.

Kevin I'll come down with ya.

Terri Don't worry about it.

Kevin Say hello to Sus for us, won't ya.

Terri Definitely.

Anne ('Goodbye') Gentlemen.

Kevin offers to return the can of Greene King IPA to Terri.

Terri Keep it.

Anne (as they're leaving) My eldest sings ...

Terri (as they're leaving) Oh yeah ...

Exit Terri and Anne.

Piece 4 - Jennifer, Andrew & Barry

Jennifer, Kevin's wife and Andrews high school girlfriend meets at Scorpion Claims to discuss how her claim will proceed. Barry is unaware at this point that the claim is false.

JENNIFER I reckon you're about two feet taller, you know. Shot up. Like a rocket. Well, maybe not two feet, but. Must be something in the water. Mum always used to say that.

ANDREW How is y'mum?

JENNIFER Yeah, she's good thanks. Well. Keeping well. Trudging s1on. Soldiering through. Full steam ahead.

ANDREW Give her my best.

JENNIFER No, I will, I will. How's y'dad?

ANDREW He's, uh, he's alright.

JENNIFER You don't sound convinced?

ANDREW He's been having a bit of trouble...

JENNIFER (beat) Has he still got that great big beard of his?

ANDREW No.

JENNIFER He was like big foot. Wasn't he? Brian Blessed. Great big roaring laughter. Green giant. Hear him coming a mile off.

ANDREW No, he's...not got the beard.

Beat.

JENNIFER Look at your eyebrows. Right state.

ANDREW Hold the phone.

JENNIFER Used to be half the size. Used to look like shadows.

JENNIFER gently straightens out/runs her finger along one of ANDREW's eyebrows. Although this gesture begins innocently enough, it quickly becomes a touch too intimate. Beat.

ANDREW Congratulations, by the way.

JENNIFER?

ANDREW Hear you're expecting.

JENNIFER Yes. Yep. Expecting. That's us. Bun in the oven. Summer baby. Don't know how I feel about it all t'be honest with ya. Plus side, least it'll be nice and warm. Down side, he or she's gonna be a Cancerian.

ANDREW How d'you mean?

JENNIFER Cancer. Star sign. They're gonna be a crab. Little crab, staring up at ya.

ANDREW Right.

Beat.

JENNIFER Is it hot, are you hot?

ANDREW 's snowing.

JENNIFER Sweating like a beast.

ANDREW Take off y'jacket if y'want.

ANDREW helps JENNIFER remove her jacket. Again, this is perhaps curiously more intimate/awkward than either had expected.

JENNIFER Nervous.

ANDREW How d'ya mean?

JENNIFER He's nice though, isn't he? Barry.

ANDREW Yeah.

JENNIFER With the tea. Barry with the tea. Missed you last coupla times I was here.

ANDREW Yeah

JENNIFER Avoiding me was ya?

ANDREW What? Nah, just. Busy.

JENNIFER Kev was saying he lives alone? Barry.

ANDREW Was he.

JENNIFER 's he not got any family around?

ANDREW Daughter lives up North.

JENNIFER 's she the one with the whadyacallit, degenerative thing?

ANDREW Sort-of.

Enter BARRY with tea.

BARRY Here we are.

JENNIFER Ooh, lovely.

BARRY Sorry it took s'long. Kettle's on the blink.

JENNIFER Sure it'll be worth the wait. Good things come to those who...

JENNIFER waits, and then laughs. BARRY and JENNIFER drink.

Blimey.

BARRY What d'ya reckon?

JENNIFER 's like a little party.

BARRY Good.

ANDREW What can we do for ya, Jennifer?

JENNIFER "Jennifer"?

ANDREW ...

JENNIFER Nobody calls me Jennifer. 'Part from mum. You're so funny sometimes. Isn't he funny?

BARRY He is.

JENNIFER Funny little face.

ANDREW Jen, is everything-

JENNIFER I don't wanna go to court.

ANDREW Okay.

JENNIFER Please don't make me go to court.

ANDREW You'll be fine. Won't she?

BARRY Be over before y'know it.

JENNIFER Can you please not make me go though?

ANDREW What is it you're worried about?

JENNIFER All of it. The whole thing.

ANDREW Right.

JENNIFER The oath.

ANDREW How d'you mean?

JENNIFER I was watching this thing on telly-

ANDREW 's not gonna be anything like-

JENNIFER They make you swear, don't they?

ANDREW They do, but-

JENNIFER They give you a Bible, don't they?

ANDREW You don't have to have a Bible if you don't wan' a Bible.

JENNIFER Not been to church in years.

BARRY Y'can take a non-religious oath, if y'd rather.

ANDREW 's all very modern.

JENNIFER What do they use instead?

ANDREW 's just words.

JENNIFER Mean I like the Bible, not saying I don't.

ANDREW Then you should go for the Bible.

BARRY Amen.

ANDREW Listen have a think.

BARRY No rush.

JENNIFER What happens if I lie?

ANDREW Why would you lie?

JENNIFER If I can't remember something-

BARRY We talked about this, didn't we?

JENNIFER No, I know.

BARRY Jus' gotta say y'dunno.

ANDREW Unfortunately, I am-

BARRY Unable to recall-

JENNIFER No, I know, I know. I know. But what happens if I've already lied?

BARRY How d'you mean?

ANDREW Y'just nervous.

BARRY How d'you mean, love?

ANDREW 'S just nerves.

BARRY When would you've "already lied"?

JENNIFER The statement.

BARRY What d'you mean? Are you saying you lied in the statement?

JENNIFER Partly.

BARRY Which part?

ANDREW Alright-

JENNIFER All of it.

BARRY All of it?

JENNIFER Yeah.

Piece 5 - Andrew, Barry & Georgina

Andrew and Barry are waiting in Luton County Court building for Kevin and Jennifer. Meanwhile they get talking to the prosecution lawyer.

Everyone is waiting, checking their watches, anxious, sweaty, twiddling their thumbs, etc. ANDREW and BARRY drink coffee from Greggs; GEORGINA and ISABELLA drink coffee from Starbucks. GEORGINA takes out her mobile telephone (preferably a very modern model) and dials.

GEORGINA (into phone) Liza it's Georgina. I'm sorry we didn't get a chance to speak last night. But, look, Tom and I would really love to see you all at the weekend. I'm in court all day, but I'll be at home tonight. Alright, lots of love.

GEORGINA hangs up.

ANDREW and GEORGINA smile politely at one another.

ANDREW 'S hot.

GEORGINA Beg your pardon?

ANDREW It's hot. In here.

GEORGINA Yes. I think there's a problem with the air conditioning.

ANDREW Is that right?

GEORGINA I think so.

ANDREW So I noticed that you, you changed counsel?

GEORGINA That's right.

ANDREW We were expecting-

GEORGINA Matthew, that's right.

ANDREW Younger.

GEORGINA Yes, that's right, this would have been his first trial. He was really upset.

BARRY Not the only one.

ANDREW Some sort of problem, was there?

GEORGINA Glandular Fever.

BARRY Nasty.

GEORGINA Indeed.

ANDREW Still it's really great to. Meet you.

GEORGINA Likewise.

ANDREW Heard a lot about you.

GEORGINA Have you?

BARRY Ball breaker.

GEORGINA Excuse me?

ANDREW We've heard you don't pull any punches.

GEORGINA's mobile telephone begins to ring:

GEORGINA

Would you excuse me. (Into phone) Liza, hello, how are you? Oh, please, don't be silly. No, that sounds lovely. Tom's really excited. Sounds wonderful. No, please, let me bring something. You're sure? I'll cobble something together. Please, it's the least I could do. Alright, speak soon. Yeah, take care. Lots of love.

ANDREW

"Ball breaker"?

BARRY What?

ANDREW D'you wanna try giving 'em another ring? Mean this is fucking crazy.

(BARRY begins to dial)

GEORGINA hangs up.

BARRY *(into phone)* Hello, Kevin, it's Barry. Barry from Scorpion Claims. *(Beat, to ANDREW)* They're outside.

ANDREW Go and get 'em.

BARRY *(into phone)* Yeah, I'm coming to get you. Yeah, just go through the metal detector and then - Yeah, that's it.

Exit BARRY.

ANDREW Tom y'husband?

GEORGINA I'm sorry?

ANDREW Tom, is he your...he your partner?

GEORGINA Tom is my son's name.

ANDREW (gesturing toward GEORGINA'S Mac, genuinely surprised) You on the internet?

GEORGINA They have wireless.

ANDREW In here? Y'joking?

GEORGINA You can get the password from reception.

ANDREW Worth knowing.

GEORGINA Yes.

ANDREW Not least 'cause the fucking dongle's on the blink.

GEORGINA There's a phrase you don't hear very often.

Piece 6 - Jessup, Kevin, Andrew & Georgina

The beginning of the trial. Very hot courtroom. The judge has arrived with a desk fan.

JESSUP So, here we are. Good morning everyone. First things first: as I'm sure you will have detected, the air conditioning seems to have once again let us down. I hope you won't mind, therefore, that I am accompanied today by a very good friend of mine. We spent the best part of last week together and I can assure you that he is nowhere near as disruptive as you might think.

JESSUP plugs in the fan and switches it on; a smile creeps across his face.

Now; I always like to begin by reminding those of you that have been kind enough to grace us with your presence, that this is not a criminal trial. We are in a Civil Court. You mustn't, therefore, worry or make yourselves anxious unnecessarily. I know from personal experience that giving evidence can be a very nerve-wracking moment in one's life. However, it is important to remember that your statements given prior to this trial are finite. We are not here today to test one another's memory. Errors and omissions are not our concern. So, please, relax and let's be as speedy as we can.

KEVIN enters the witness box. ATTENDANT holds out a laminated oath from which KEVIN reads the following (KEVIN leans in and speaks very closely to the microphone):

KEVIN I swear by Almighty God that the evidence I give shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

ANDREW Would you state your name please?

KEVIN, again, leans in and speaks very closely to the microphone:

KEVIN Kevin Needleman.

ANDREW Your date-

JESSUP Sorry to interrupt, Mr Eagleman.

ANDREW Not at all, your Honour. The floor is yours.

JESSUP Now Mr Needleman, please don't feel that you have to lean in like that towards the microphone. I can assure you that the recording equipment in this courtroom is more than capable of picking you up from a safe distance, as it were.

KEVIN Right you are.

JESSUP Mr Eagleman.

ANDREW Thank you, Your Honour. What is your date of birth?

KEVIN automatically leans into the microphone but tries to sit back as soon as he catches himself doing this.

KEVIN February the - Sorry. February the second, nineteen eighty.

ANDREW And is everything in your statement true to the best of your knowledge?

KEVIN Yeah.

ANDREW No further questions.

GEORGINA Mr Needleman, had you been involved in a road traffic accident prior to the collision which took place on September seventh two thousand and twelve?

KEVIN No.

GEORGINA You're certain of that fact, Mr Needleman?

KEVIN Hundred and ten per cent.

GEORGINA I have here in front of me, Mr Needleman, an email from a Mr James Macdonald of Arnold Mitchell which I'm afraid to say says otherwise. According to Mr Macdonald, in two thousand and eleven you submitted a personal injury claim-

KEVIN Right, no, yeah - Well I mean there's that one. Yeah I mean if we're talking two thousand eleven, then you're bang on.

GEORGINA It must have slipped your mind.

ANDREW Your Honour, Miss Burns seems to be rather unnecessarily, not to mention cruelly, passing judgment on Mr Needleman, with-

JESSUP Is she?

ANDREW Your Honour, my client is allowed to forget.

JESSUP And Miss Burns is allowed to comment on said forgetfulness, is she not Mr Eagleman? Miss Burns.

GEORGINA Thank you, Your Honour. Mr. Needleman, what were yourself, your wife and your daughter doing when the accident of September seventh took place?

KEVIN We were driving.

GEORGINA Evidently. What was the purpose of your journey, Mr Needleman?

KEVIN Shopping.

GEORGINA Can you be a little more specific?

KEVIN We was out tryina find a present for Lucy.

GEORGINA And did you?

KEVIN Come again?

GEORGINA Did you find a present, for your daughter?

KEVIN Dunno.

GEORGINA You don't know?

KEVIN Mean what does it say in the statement?

GEORGINA Well, interestingly enough, Mr Needleman, it doesn't.

KEVIN Guess we didn't find anything then.

GEORGINA Evidently.

KEVIN Mighta been the cinema.

GEORGINA I beg your pardon Mr Needleman?

KEVIN I was sayin: it might have been the cinema.

GEORGINA As opposed to shopping?

KEVIN Cineworld, thass what I'm saying.

GEORGINA What were you hoping to see?

KEVIN I dunno, it was fucking a year ago you tell me.

JESSUP Mr Needleman, I think we can do without that kind of language today if you don't mind.

Piece 7 - Andrew and Isabella

Later in the trial, Isabella, a delivery van driver is giving evidence.

ANDREW (meaning "thank you" Your Honour. Miss Reynolds, in your statement you claim that the driver of the vehicle with which you collided was non-white?

ISABELLA Yeah, he was sort of Greek-looking.

ANDREW He was 'sort of Greek-looking'?

ISABELLA Yeah, I don't mean to sound weird or anything, but he was sort of, like, he was sort of dark-looking.

ANDREW "Dark-looking"?

ISABELLA Yeah, not like dark as in black, but, like, dark as in definitely not white. And he had a sort of Greek-y looking beard.

ANDREW A beard?

ISABELLA Yeah, like a, like a thick, bushy, wiry, Greek-y looking beard.

ANDREW I see.

ISABELLA And he didn't really say that much.

ANDREW Who didn't?

ISABELLA The bloke who got out of the car. I got the impression his... Got the impression that English probably wasn't his first language.

ANDREW You mention very little of this in your statement, Miss Reynolds?

ISABELLA Yeah, I know, I know. And I feel, right, I feel really bad about that. But.

ANDREW Miss Reynolds?

ISABELLA (beat, then) I didn't wanna sound racist.

ANDREW In your statement?

ISABELLA I just wasn't really sure what the right word was. For someone who looks sorta Greek but also looks pretty dark an' that.

ANDREW What did you speak about? Once the two of you were out of your respective vehicles.

ISABELLA Thass the thing, we didn't because he couldn't.

ANDREW If the two of you didn't speak to one another, Miss Reynolds, how can you be certain that the man you claim to have collided with was unable to speak English?

ISABELLA I tried - I tried speaking to him - I got out of the van and I looked at the front, right, at the like bumper and it looked fine. And then I like looked at his car and it looked, like, barely damaged at all, right. And then when this bearded, like, burly-looking bloke gets out of this tiny, little car I start getting pretty nervous - Because you hear about situations like this properly just kicking off. And he looked hard, so I started sort-of just rambling, but he didn't - He literally did not say a single word.