

EXTRACT

The Gift of the Gun

a short play

by

Alex Broun

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Cast

WILLIAM 50s

BEN Late teens

Setting

Bare room in a deserted warehouse.

Time

Monday. 9am.

The Gift of the Gun.

A bare room. 9am.

In darkness music begins. A Chopin Etude.

A spotlight comes up on a child's mobile of bright coloured shapes. Red triangles and yellow rectangles, floating in space.

Lights come up on **WILLIAM**. He sits on a chair down left. He is well dressed in an expensive suit and shiny shoes.

To his right is a bare table. On it two objects : a yellow box and a red triangle. Beside it a plain black sound system. There is a door upstage.

The spotlight fades on the mobile. The music remains.

There is a knock at the door. The music is suddenly cut off.

WILLIAM: It's open.

THE DOOR OPENS SLOWLY AND BEN ENTERS. HIS FAIR HAIR IS SLICKED BACK AND HE WEARS A BRIGHTLY COLOURED RED SINGLET AND YELLOW PANTS. HE CARRIES A SMALL BACK PACK.

WILLIAM: Close the door.

BEN CLOSES THE DOOR.

WILLIAM: No problem finding the address?

BEN: Place seems deserted. You must be the only one here.

WILLIAM: It's scheduled for demolition.

BEN: Whatever blows your mind. I'm Ben.

WILLIAM: My name is William. Come over here so I can look at you.

BEN PUTS DOWN THE BAG. HE WALKS SLOWLY TOWARDS WILLIAM. WILLIAM INDICATES FOR HIM TO WALK UP AND DOWN.

BEN WALKS IN FRONT OF WILLIAM. WILLIAM WATCHES HIM.

WILLIAM: Excellent.

BEN: Blonde enough for you?

WILLIAM: Perfect.

BEN: Clothes alright?

WILLIAM: You've done very well.

BEN: Not leaving anything to chance are you?

WILLIAM: Best not to.

BEN: Any more special requests?

WILLIAM: Not just yet.

PAUSE. BEN LOOKS AT WILLIAM.

BEN: So, having a good day?

WILLIAM: So far.

BEN: (WANDERING AROUND ROOM) Do you live here?

WILLIAM: Of course not.

BEN: It doesn't look too cosy. Is there a bathroom? I might need to clean up afterwards.

WILLIAM: Unfortunately not.

BEN: How about some towels?

WILLIAM: I do apologise.

BEN: It's alright. I've got some of my own. Keep them for little emergencies.

BEN OPENS UP HIS BAG. HE TAKES OUT SOME TOWELETTES. HE HOLDS UP A SMALL CASSETTE PLAYER.

BEN: How about some music?

WILLIAM: Not at the moment.

BEN PUTS THE CASSETTE PLAYER AWAY. HE STANDS.

BEN: So what will it be? Giving. Receiving. Or are you just interested in some oral? You look like you really like to suck dick.

WILLIAM: Absolutely not.

BEN: Oops. Didn't mean to offend you. I don't often have new clients. Too popular with my regulars. They get great service so they ask for me again and again. Hopefully you will too.

WILLIAM: A once off will be sufficient.

BEN: Don't be so hasty. Wait to see if you like me. (PAUSE) I don't usually go to someone's place. You never know what could happen. But Terio said you come highly recommended and you'd make it worth my while.

WILLIAM: You'll be well compensated.

PAUSE. **BEN BEGINS TO UNBUTTON HIS PANTS.**

WILLIAM: What are you doing?

BEN: Don't you want to watch me.

WILLIAM: God no. No offence.

BEN: Most people say I've got a great body.

WILLIAM: You look very firm.

BEN: Would you like to touch me?

WILLIAM: No, but thanks for offering.

BEN: I could lie on the table.

WILLIAM: That won't be necessary.

PAUSE.

BEN: Look, I don't mean to sound ungrateful. But could we get started. I've got to be back for one of my regulars at eleven.

WILLIAM: Certainly.

BEN: Well? What would you like me to do?

WILLIAM: Go to the table and lift up the red triangle.

BEN: Oh, so that's it. Toys.