

1

INT. LONDON UNDERGROUND CORRIDORS - DAY

1

A busy milling of people too and fro a busker can be heard out of sight.

ADELE

(muttering)

You always do that! I told you I wanted to meet her in town!

TERRY

Yes, and you know I can't stand her!

ADELE

Argrr! Why is it always about you?

TERRY

(shouting)

Because you expect me to be nice to her... She's such a whiner!

ADELE

She's a whiner! Oh you are a joke!

CUT TO:

2

INT. LIFT DOOR -DAY

2

A queue assembles awaiting the lift to arrive. The muttering continues. Busker can be heard singing "I'll be watching you".

TERRY

So why do you always expect me to tag along? I could have watched the match!

ADELE

Is that all you can think about? Football football football.

TERRY

Better than Jenny no-balls! God she's spineless!

ADELE

Oh please! Mr jelly spine is talking.

Other people exchange brief glances of resignation towards the now public argument. Business man achieves a look of detached indifference. Two punks smirk patronisingly. Syrian

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woman/MOTHER, stressed and preoccupied tries to restrain her daughter/GIRL from staring at the couple. A nervous looking woman/NERVOUS;distracted, is hardly aware of the couple, she looks frightened.

The lift door opens, the people step in and assemble themselves around the walls of the lift. The busker is already (inexplicably) in the lift. each character glances at him incongruously. The busker returns their fleeting gaze with a smile.

3

LIFT INTERIOR.

3

The lift begins to descend. The frightened woman tenses her hands into a knot.

(A recorded voice is heard "MIND THE GAP")

The lift grinds noisily to a halt. The occupants apart from BUSKER and SMALL GIRL, look alarmed yet try to retain their composure.

Two YOUNG PUNKS are fidgeting. They feign distain with grimaces towards the others. Busker looks at them:

BUSKER

Alright Lads? Off to Playgroup?

VOICE

MIND THE..

BUSKER

..Credibility

VOICE

..GAP

YOUNG PUNKS look nervous. One takes a marker pen from his pocket and begins to graffiti an anarchist sign on the wall of the lift.

BUSKER

I see, you've brought your own crayons.

VOICE

MIND THE GAP

BUSKER surveys each occupant in turn, his eyes eventually meeting small GIRL's, who's MOTHER draws her closer in to the folds of her coat. BUSKER begins a mime with three silver balls taken from his pocket. He throws the balls as if across the lift's interior, They bounce back from an

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unseen 'wall' between the COUPLE. He looks perplexed and the balls dissolve in his hand; glitter falls to the floor. GIRL is amazed; she looks to all the other occupants enquiringly.

VOICE
MIND THE GAP

BUSKER attempts to walk across the lift. He mimes hitting a barrier between the couple; looks perplexed as he examines 'it' with his hands. GIRL is fascinated and amused. BUSKER limbos under the 'barrier' to the other side and stands between the MOTHER/GIRL and NERVOUS woman.

VOICE
MIND THE GAP

BUSKER pulls a guitar/Uke from nowhere, and begins to sing

BUSKER
SONG: ("MIND THE GAP" becomes
punch-line for each verse)

BUSKER's song addresses each person in turn, eventually raising a smile on NERVOUS woman's face.

4 INT. LIFT -DAY

4

The lift jerks and begins to descend again. Everyone looks relieved; they smile at the busker.

5 INT. LIFT DOOR FROM OUTSIDE LIFT: UNDERGROUND FLOOR

5

The lift doors open, each character steps out, except BUSKER. each mindfully - mind the gap. Each face reveals some expression of epiphany. GIRL strains on her mother's hand to look back into the lift. The MOTHER's eyes look back also. The BUSKER is no longer there.

A copy of METRO lies discarded on a seat. The Headline reads: BUSKER DIES ON UNDERGROUND.