FOR FIVE MINUTES I SAT page 1

IN THE CAR

WITH A BUTT HANGING

BETWEEN MY LIPS

THREE CIGARETTES GONE NOW

IN THOUGHT

AND STILL I WAITED

I PUT THE BUTT OUT

I LIT A CIGARETTE SLOWLY

THEN BLEW THE SMOKE

THROUGH MY NOSTRILS

PRICE LOOKED AT THE BODY AGAIN

THEN OFFERED ME

A CIGARETTE

I'LL BE A SO AND SO

I SQUASHED THE BUTT

INTO THE ASHTRAY

NUTS

IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKELY

THAT A GENIUS CAN BE BORNE

I THREW MY BUTT

IN THE FIREPLACE

AND PARKED IN THE CHAIR

OPPOSITE

-

SURE IT COULD page 2

EXCEPT THAT IT WASN'T

I POKED A BUTT IN MY MOUTH

AND HELD A MATCH TO IT

PRICE SHOOK OUT A CIG

FROM HIS PACK

MONEY WASN'T THE PRIMARY MOTIVE

I LIT UP

AND BLEW A CLOUD OF SMOKE

AT THE CEILING

I PICKED ANOTHER CIGARETTE

OUT OF THE BOX

AND FLICKED A MATCH

WITH MY THUMBNAIL

THAT ABOUT COVERS IT

I TOOK A CIGARETTE

FROM MY POCKET

AND STUFFED IT

BETWEEN MY LIPS

I DRAGGED THE SMOKE IN DEEPLY

ROXY WAS BEGINNING

TO GO WHITE

BITING ON HER LIP

BILLY FUMBLED FOR HIS BUTT

ON THE FLOOR AND HELD THE LIT TIP TO MINE

I LIT UP A CIGARETTE page 3

AND BLEW A CLOUD OF SMOKE

AT THE CEILING

DID YOU KNOW

THAT YORK DIDN'T HAVE

LONG TO LIVE

ANYWAY?

BILLY CRUSHED HIS FAG

IN AN ASHTRAY

I'M GOING TO BED

THIS DAY HAS BEEN TOUGH ENOUGH

I LIT THE CIGARETTE SLOWLY

THEN BLEW THE SMOKE

THROUGH MY NOSTRILS

GRANGE DIDN'T BUMP ANYBODY

I THREW MY CIGARETTE

IN THE FIREPLACE

THEN PARKED IN THE CHAIR

OPPOSITE

PRICE LOOKED AT THE BODY AGAIN

THEN OFFERED ME A CIGARETTE

SO GRANGE REALLY DID BUMP HER BOSS

I'LL BE A SO AND SO

THREE CIGARETTES GONE page 4

IN THOUGHT

AND I STILL WAITED

THE MUSIC HAD CHANGED NOW

I PUT THE CIGARETTE OUT

WHILE I PICKED

A COMFORTABLE CHAIR

SHE OFFERED ME A SMOKE

FROM A GOLD BOX

I TOOK ONE AND LIT IT

NICE PLACE YOU GOT HERE

THIS GUY WAS EASY

THE MATCH LIT HIS FACE

BRIEFLY

THEN SUBSIDED INTO THE GLOW

OF A CIGARETTE TIP

WHEN I POCKETED THE SNAP

I LIT ANOTHER CIGARETTE

WHO ELESE IS IN THE HOUSE?

ALICE SMILED

THROUGH A CLOUD OF SMOKE

YOU WERE BETTER LOOKING

THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU

--,

WHEN I HUNG UP page 5

I PICKED UP ANOTHER PACK OF BUTTS

A CLEAN SET OF UNDERWEAR

SHIRT AND SOCKS

IN A DRY GOODS STORE

ON TOP OF THE DASH

I LAID OUT MY CIGS

AND A PACK 0F MATCHES

THEN WORKED THE SEAT AROUND

UNTIL I WAS COMFORTABLE

TWENTY CIGARETTES LATER

THEY WERE STILL OUT

I CURLED UP ON THE SEAT

AND CONKED OFF

UH HU

NOT YET

HER EYES FOLLOWED MINE

TO THE ASHTRAY

THERE WERE FOUR BUTTS

TWO OF THEM HAD LIPSTICK ON

THE OTHER TWO WEREN'NT MY BRAND

I SNUBBED MY BUTT

UH HUH

DID HE TURN TO SOMEONE ELSE?

I THREW MY HAT ON THE DESK

AND PUSHED A BUTT BETWEEN MY LIPS

PRICE WAITED UNTIL I LIT IT

I DRAGGED HEAVILY ON THE CIGARETTE page 6

AND RAN OVER IT AGAIN

CHECKING EVERY DETAIL

I FIRED UP A BUTT

AND SHOVED THE PICS

BACK IN MY POCKET

WHILE I PICKED OUT

A COMFORTABLE CHAIR

SHE TURNED ON

A T ABLE LAMP

THEN OFFERED ME A SMOKE

I TOOK ONE AND LIT IT

I DIDN'T LIKE THIS GUY

BLEW A CLOUD OF SMOKE IN HIS FACE

NOT HARD

NOT HARD AT ALL

THERE ARE TIMES

WHEN A GUY WANTS A CIGARETTE

IN THE WORST WAY

THIS WAS ONE OF THEM

I FINISHED TWO THREE FOUR

FIVE

THREW THE CAR IN GEAR

AND PLOUGHED OUT

WITH A SHOW OF IMPATIENCE page 7

I FLIPPED THE REMAINS

OF THE BUTT INTO THE FLAMES

SECRETS SECRETS

SO DAMN MANY SECRETS

SURE IT COULD

EXCEPT THAT IT WASN'T

I POKED A BUTT IN MY MOUTH

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WITH MY THUMBNAIL

THAT ABOUT COVERS IT

I TOOK A CIGARETTE page 8

FROM MY POCKET

AND STUFFED IT

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AND STILL I WAITED

I PUT THE BUTT OUT

I LIT A CIGARETTE SLOWLY

THEN BLEW THE SMOKE

THROUGH MY NOSTRILS

PRICE LOOKED AT THE BODY AGAIN page 9

THEN OFFERED ME

A CIGARETTE

I'LL BE A SO AND SO

I SQUASHED THE BUTT

INTO THE ASHTRAY

NUTS

IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKELY

THAT A GENIUS CAN BE BORNE

I THREW MY BUTT

IN THE FIREPLACE

AND PARKED IN THE CHAIR

OPPOSITE

ROXY HAD CHANGED

INTO A DEEP MAROON QUILTED JOB

AND SAT IN A CHAIR

SMOKING A CIGARETTE

I COULD SEE

THAT SHE WAS SORRY TOO

SHE HANDED ME A DECK OF BUTTS

AND I POCKETED THEM

WHILE I PICKED page 10

A COMFORTABLE CHAIR

SHE OFFERED ME A SMOKE

FROM A GOLD BOX

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THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU

WHEN I HUNG UP

I PICKED UP ANOTHER PACK OF BUTTS

A CLEAN SET OF UNDERWEAR

SHIRT AND SOCKS

IN A DRY GOODS STORE

I LIT UP A CIGARETTE page 11

AND BLEW A CLOUD OF SMOKE

AT THE CEILING

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THAT YORK DIDN'T HAVE

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ANYWAY?

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THREE CIGARETTES GONE

IN THOUGHT

AND I STILL WAITED

THE MUSIC HAD CHANGED NOW

I PUT THE CIGARETTE OUT

ROXY HAD CHANGED page 12

INTO A DEEP MAROON QUILTED JOB

AND SAT IN A CHAIR

SMOKING A CIGARETTE

I COULD SEE

THAT SHE WAS SORRY TOO

SHE HANDED ME A DECK OF BUTTS

AND I POCKETED THEM

ON TOP OF THE DASH page 13

I LAID OUT MY CIGS

AND A PACK OF MATCHES

THEN WORKED THE SEAT AROUND

UNTIL I WAS COMFORTABLE

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DID HE TURN TO SOMEONE ELSE?

I THREW MY HAT ON THE DESK

AND PUSHED A BUTT BETWEEN MY LIPS

PRICE WAITED UNTIL I LIT IT

I DRAGGED HEAVILY ON THE CIGARETTE

AND RAN OVER IT AGAIN

CHECKING EVERY DETAIL

I FIRED UP A BUTT page 14

AND SHOVED THE PICS

BACK IN MY POCKET

WHILE I PICKED OUT

A COMFORTABLE CHAIR

SHE TURNED ON

A T ABLE LAMP

THEN OFFERED ME A SMOKE

I TOOK ONE AND LIT IT

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