

Coward Of The County

By

Alan Masterton

29 May 2013
Final Draft

Alan Masterton (C)

INT. TOMMY'S FRIGHT- 6PM

FADE IN

TOMMY, 10, 3'6 Tall, dark brown hair, still in his school uniform.

Tommy is on the phone to his Dad who is in prison for assault and breach of the peace. His Dad is very ill and fears his time maybe coming soon. (MS) Centre Stage

DAD (O/S)

Tommy, I am very ill, I'm in prison now, and I may not survive to see my release. If I don't, take these words and live by them. Promise me son not to do the things I've done, walk away from trouble if you can. Now it don't mean your weak if you turn the other cheek, I hope you're old enough to understand son you don't have to fight to be man.

Tommy could sense himself filling up, he missed his Dad as he'd been in prison for so long but to be told that wouldn't be able to see him when he comes out of jail was one thing, but watching him die was quite an other.

FADE TO BLACK

FADE IN

The call has now ended Tommy has just ran upstairs and is now crying his eyes out.(ECU) Front Stage.

FADE TO BLACK

EXT. IN THE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND- LUNCHTIME

Tommy is now 12 and grown a few inches in height. Two years had past since his dad died. He started High School where he is an outcast. Tommy has gone to buy his lunch. (OTS)

JOE, 11, blue denim jacket, 4'9 tall, tough look on his face, leader of the pack.

STEVE, 12, black denim jacket, 4'5 tall, tags along with Joe so he can pick on people.

DAVE, 11, 4'1, cream denim jacket, wee hard man.

(CONTINUED)

Joe, Steve and Dave picked on Tommy all the time. Tommy was going out for his lunch, they picked on him, just before they left the playground Joe gave Tommy 2 black eyes and watched him fall to the ground while the other 3 laughed. (MS) Front stage

JOE
oih, you two we're no finished with
Old Yellow.

STEVE
What have still to do.

DAVE
I know, let's bogwash him. (MS)

STEVE
Aye, that way Yellow will be a very
apt name for him. Ha-ha. (ECU)

JOE
Yeah, and we'll take his money for
our next stash of drugs.

FADE TO BLACK

INT. BOYS TOILETS IN THE SCHOOL- 12.30PM

Dave pops his head out of the toilet doors. (LS) Centre Stage

DAVE
Right, Joe, Steve, coast is clear. (MS)

Joe and Steve walk in to the toilet carrying a struggling Tommy. They flush Tommy's head down the toilet and Joe snatched the money from Tommy's pocket as if to say it's mine and no one else. (CU)

They walk out the toilet leaving Tommy's head down the pan. (ECU)

INT. AT A PUB ONE AFTERNOON- 2PM

Tommy is 17 now and has left school as it's an experience he'd rather forget. Another problem is he is still being pestered by those immature men Joe, Dave and Steve.

Tommy spot's a girl in the corner he likes.

BECKY, 17, close cropped brown hair hazel eyes wearing her favourite pink dress. (MS) Left Back Stage

Tommy approaches Becky by walking over to her, they get chatting. (CTS)

(CONTINUED)

TOMMY
Hello.

BECKY
Hi.

TOMMY
So do you like, aah, stuff.

BECKY
Yeah, I suppose.

Becky can tell Tommy likes her and want's to give him a chance.

BECKY
Could you excuse me for one minute.

TOMMY
Of course.

Becky hurrays in to the toilet to slap on some make up and perfume she keeps in her handbag.(MS) Back stage

STEVE
Now look Yellow, if she wouldn't give any of us her hole she most certainly wont give it to you.

Tommy looked over at them and frowned. (LS) Left stage

Becky walks out of the toilet and starts kissing with Tommy.
(ECU)
Steve, Joe and Dave glare over in jealousy. (CU) Right front stage

Becky grabs Tommy's hand and runs out the bar with him. (MS)

TOMMY
You're keen, and I like it.

BECKY
Well you know how the song goes,
tonight lets get some and live
while your young.

TOMMY
Well that's a different song by a
different person, so I'm not gonna
comment. (CU)

INT. BECKY'S FLAT- 3PM

Tommy is moving in with Becky after being together a couple of months.

Tommy and Becky look up at each other and smile.(MS) Centre stage

INT. WHAT IS NOW THEIR FLAT- 8PM

About another week passes, Tommy has been out for a walk before going out for a meal to find Becky huddled in a dark corner, crying with ripped tights covered in blood and her favourite dress ripped both at the front and the back. Tommy crouches down and sits right next to her, putting his arm round her shoulder where she allows her head to fall as her tears continually trickle down her face.(MS) Centre stage

BECKY

It was Steve, Jo, (sniffle)
and Dave. They each took turns of
me. I'm so ashamed of myself.

TOMMY

There, there, there darling.

He was really pissed off at this point but kept it bottled up inside as Becky was scared and needed his tender company.

INT. BAR SLUICE ROOM- 1PM

Steve, Dave and Joe are playing pool. It's a few days after they raped Becky.(MS)

They are busy boasting and bragging to each other about about what they done. Centre stage.

STEVE

Yeah and we each got a go at either
end until she started to bleed.

DAVE

Aye, and she whimpered to to me
I'll get Tommy to you. (MS) Centre Stage

JOE

Pffft, Tommy wouldn't do anything.
Always has been a wimp, always will
be. (LS) Back stage

At that point Tommy walked in to the sluice room.(ECU)

(CONTINUED)

TOMMY

Well, well, well, it comes down to this. I want answers. I want them now.

STEVE

Ha-ha-ha, a wee runt like you, and you want answers.

JOE

Don't make us laugh.

TOMMY

I'm not trying to make anybody laugh. In actual fact, if anybody has the last laugh, it'll be me.

They choose not to co-operate with Tommy and continue to take the piss. (MS) Centre Stage

Joe makes the break on the pool table, as Steve and Dave watch unaware of what Tommy is doing. Tommy begins to mutter to himself. (LS) Back stage)

TOMMY

I'm going to do something I should've done a long time ago. (LTS)

Tommy grabs Steve and Dave by scruff of the neck and bangs there heads together until they are unconscious. Joe Hurrays round the table to try and rescue them but Tommy trips him up halfway round. He picks up Joe kicks him in the guts a few times. (MS)

TOMMY

This ones for Becky. (ETS)

Tommy threw Joe in to the wall were he went unconscious. (ECU)

EXT. GRAVEYARD- 3PM

That same day Tommy visits his Dads grave apologising for that one time. (MS)

TOMMY

I promised you Dad not to do the things you've done, I've walked away from trouble when I can. Now please don't think I'm weak I didn't turn the other cheek, but pa-pa I sure hope you understand, sometimes you've got to fight when you're a man.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

6.

FADE TO BLACK