

Stageplay Version Coward of County

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ACT I

SCENE 1

OPEN CURTAINS

TOMMY, 7, 3 feet, school uniform.

Tommy downstage on telephone.

TOMMY DAD. (OFFSTAGE)

I'm dying and I may not live to see
my release so if I die 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 and I hope
you're old enough to understand son
you don't have to fight to be a
man.

CLOSE CURTAINS

ACT II

SCENE 2

OPEN CURTAINS

NARRATOR.

Two years pass, Tommy's dad died.

Tommy is in playground about to go get lunch he is being
picked on.

STEVE, 13, track suit.

DAVE, 13, track suit.

JOE, 13, tracksuit.

Centre stage 3 guys pushing and passing Tommy between them.

Tommy falls to the ground.

JOE.

Is that us finished with old Yellow
then.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE.
Na, he deserves more torture.

STEVE.
I know lets bogwash him.

JOE.
Yeah that way yellow would be a
more apt name for him.

Centre stage. They pick Tommy up and carry him to the toilet and flush his head down.

DAVE.
Yeah and then we'll chore his
dinner money for our next line at
the dealer.

CLOSE CURTAINS

ACT III

SCENE 3

OPEN CURTAINS

Tommy is now 17 and has met a girl in a pub. He's still being bothered by Steve, Dave & Joe.

BECKY, 17, blonde hair, blue eyes, short black dress and tights.

Centre stage Tommy a random question.

TOMMY.
So uh do you like stuff.

Becky can tell Tommy likes her.

BECKY.
Yeah. Excuse me a minute please.

TOMMY.
Sure.

Becky runs off to toilet to slap on make up. Right centre.

Dave walks from left centre to centre stage.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE.

Look Tommy if she wouldn't give any of us her hole, She most certainly wont give it to you. Tommy frowns at Dave.

Becky runs out to centre stage all dolled up and throws her arms round Tommy.

TOMMY.

Wow, you're fast and I like it.

BECKY.

Well you know how the song goes, tonight let's get some, and live while your young.

TOMMY.

Well that's a completely different song so I'm not gonna comment.

Becky grabs Tommy's hand pulling him off to left wing.

SCENE 4

NARRATOR.

Tommy and Becky have only been together 2 weeks but now live together.

Down stage they're sitting down together.

BECKY.

I love you

TOMMY.

I love you to

SCENE 5

Down stage Tommy arrives in house.

Centre stage right. Becky huddled down with dress ripped at front and back covered in blood.

TOMMY.

What the F-.

Becky interrupts Tommy.

(CONTINUED)

BECKY.

It was Steve, (sniffle) Joe,
(sniffle) and Dave they each took
turns of me.

SCENE 6

Centre Stage Tommy picks up his Dads picture and starts
crying.

ACT IV

SCENE 7

Upstage Joe, Steve & Dave are playing snooker.

STEVE.

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

DAVE.

And she whimpered to us I'll get
Tommy to you

JOE.

Pffft. He wouldn't do anything,
he's a wimp. Always has been
always will be.

Down stage At that minute Tommy walks on.

TOMMY.

Well well well, so it all comes
down to this. I want answers, and
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
anyone laugh. In actual fact I'll
be the one with the last laugh.

They choose not to co-operate and continue with their game of
snooker.

(CONTINUED)

Tommy runs to the upstage banging Dave and Joes heads together. Steve runs round the table to try rescue them but Tommy trips him up and lifts him.

TOMMY.

This ones for Becky.

He throws Steve in to wall.

SCENE 8

Down stage Tommy is standing opposite his Dad's grave.

TOMMY.

I promised you Dad not to do the things you done I walked away from trouble when I can. Now please don't think I'm weak I didn't turn the other cheek so I just hope you understand, sometimes you gotta fight when your a man.

CLOSE CURTAINS