

THE CLEANER S2

' PEACH MELBA'

6/9/22
Pi nk revi si ons

Wri tten by

Ronan Bl aney

INT/EXT.

(')
If I have to stand here for another
ten seconds I'm

INT. ALBERTO'S. PARLOUR - DAY

Cleaning montage: Wicky goes about his work - mixing chemicals... spraying and wiping down surfaces... a blast from a steamer...

In the midst of his wo

ROBERT

ao, shalom. Now, Please
n Alberto I have arrived for
ch Melba.

WICKY

ose you shouldn't see it on
ews... Come in.

nt in and si

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6A.

ROBERT
A plank is not a suitable weapon

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(')

... Including, I'm afraid, 'valued customers'.

ROBERT

But you're here and you're just a cleaner.

Wicky sucks this up.

Wicky cuts the call. No sooner has he done so than it rings again. He hesitates... but this time he doesn't answer and sets the phone on the counter.

ROBERT (OOV)

I'll have a peach melba, please.

Wicky jumps and whips his head round like his ass has been nipped. Robert is sitting at a table. Wicky dumbfounded for seconds, he just stares back a

ROBERT

Alberto told me I would never have permission to cross the red line for health and safety reasons.

WICKY

The Police vetted me for health and safety. They said I'm safe (beat) and health.

Robert accepts this and looks expectedly at Wicky- he considers the ice-cream compartments, each with a silver lid -

WICKY (')

How do you make peach melba?

Robert rattles off the instructions, he knows this well.

ROBERT

One scoop of chocolate ice-cream,
two scoops of vanilla ice-cream,
two scoops of peach ice-cream...

A

(,)

WICKY
Vanilla then ...?

ROBERT
(Wicky has forgotten the
chocolate)
But the (chocolate) -

WICKY
What's after vanilla?

ROBERT
But -

WICKY
Simple question.

ROBERT
Peach. It's a peach melba.

Wicky makes a move towards the peach ice-cream.

ROBERT (')
(re the ice-cream in the
glass)
But that isn't vanilla, that is
banana! There is no banana!

Fuming, Wicky dumps the banana ice-cream back into the
compartment, looks at the other compartments -

ROBERT (')
Now there is banana residue on my
glass.

Wicky makes a low whistle - telling himself to calm - takes
another glass, begins on the other compartments until he
scoops some ice-cream, holds it up -

WICK

ROBERT
You seem to find me irritating.

WICKY
Well I don't.

Wicky throws a scoop in the glass, crosses back round the counter and bangs it down in front of the boy.

ROBERT
It's perfectly okay to say I'm
irritating. I know I can be.

Wicky smiles. 

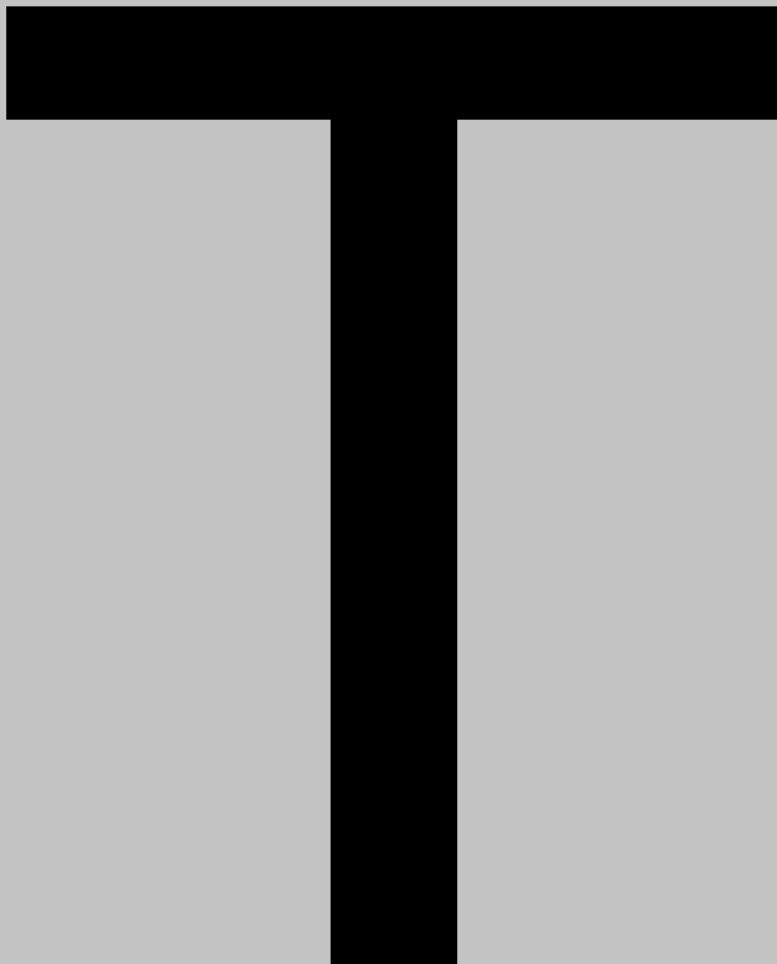
WICKY
Well, not to me.

The two men lo

WICKY

Oh silly me for not knowing the
Melba protocol. I better get back
to the universityrof scoop!

Wicky grabs for the glass and in the process sends it flyin



WICKY

When was that?

ROBERT

When I was 10.

WICKY

You've been coming to Alberto's all that time?

ROBERT

Yes. Every Sunday. My father would sit there, I would sit here. I would have peach melba ice-cream, he would have caramel macchiato ice-cream. I don't know why you look so surprised. It's perfectly normal for a father to buy his son ice cream.

WICKY

You haven't met my dad Robert Kendrick.

ROBERT

You can call me Robert now, we have developed a relationship.

Wicky sm

ROBERT

I know you're not allowed to lie
but my father said this was an
emergency lie because otherwise the
police would come and take me and
put me in a treatment unit.

Aghast, Wicky listens to t

ROBERT

Why would anyone want to forget
their father?

WICKY

Some deserve to be forgotten.

ROBERT

Don't you like your father?!

- Wicky lands flat on his back - as the box collides with the crate that's wedging the door open, knocking it away. The door swings shut, SLAM.

INT. ALBERTOS. OUTSIDE FREEZER - CONTINUOUS

The sudden slam of the door disturbs one of the pallets positioned against the corridor wall. T Tm /TT2 1 Tf () Tj 04 677Tm

Stimmi ng, wary, he finally lifts it -

ROBERT

Good afternoon, my name is Robert
Kendrick.

CUT BETWEEN Robert

He gets up, moves to the end of the counter, careful not to look behind the counter, a hand against the edge of his vision, before he lifts the phone and

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(')

I don't care about unlimited access to data in Finland but if you want to, we can discuss it when I'm not trapped in a freezer.

ROBERT

You are still in the freezer?

WICKY

I am and it really is living up to it

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EXT. NIGEL'S FOLKS - BACK GARDEN - DAY

In the back garden of Nigel's folks home, Sis is pullin

SIS

Christopher, ~~would you~~ mind going

He doesn't introduce himself this time. Just waits. Instead, Wicky does the introduction -

WICKY

Robert Kendrick.

ROBERT

I thought it might be you.

WI

ROBERT

What book would the judge throw at
you?

Wicky shrugs, what the fuck.

WICKY

The Bible?

There

INT. ALBERTO'S OFFICE - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Wicky bursts into the office and grabs up a notebook and pen. . .

INT. ALBERTO'S PARLOUR - DAY - MINUTES LATER

Robert

(')
Go off and enjoy yours and know
that even though my work has kept
us apart I am always thinking about
you. '

(hesitates - a furtive
glance at Robert)
'By the way, I

Robert nods and goes back to the letter. He nods, seemingly satisfied and hands it back to Wicky.

WICKY (')
It's a nice letter.

Robert smiles. Slightly knowingly.

ROBERT
It is. Thank you Wicky.

Robert looks down.

ROBERT (')
So he's not coming back is he?

WICKY
I don't think so, Robert. I'm sorry.

Robert nods.

DAD

Lock in at the pub.

(surreptitious)

There's a horse up for grabs in

Wease