

THE HAIRCUT

by

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INT. SHOP - HAIRCARE ISLE - DAY

In the hair care isle, a disheveled-looking MAN, complete with stubble and unlit cigarette in his mouth, examines various scissors. Finally, he selects the cheapest ones.

INT. SHOP - CHECKOUT LINE - DAY

The man waits in line behind several people, holding the pair of scissors and a battery-powered razor. He almost looks tired.

INT. WAREHOUSE - ?

DONNY sits tied to a chair, his arms behind his back - his head hung, breathing heavily. From somewhere comes the creak of a door, and Donny looks up - it's the man, grocery bag in tow and almost-spent cigarette between his lips. The man approaches, sets down the bag, and extinguishes his cigarette on the floor.

DONNY

What do you want? I got lots of stuff in my apartment, if you want, I can take you there - anything you like, it's yours, mate.

The man sighs as he pulls out another cigarette and lights it. He squats, looking Donny in the eye.

MAN

What's your name?

DONNY

It's Donny.

The man hangs his head.

DONNY

It is - it's Donny Metcalf. You can check the ID in my wallet - hell, you can have my wallet.

The man takes a deep breath.

MAN

Look, I know they say this in the movies, but we can do this the easy way, or we can do it the hard way. And if it's all the same to you, I've got an AA meeting at six.

DONNY

I don't know what -

The man slams his fist down on Donny's leg. Donny lets out a scream, and the man grabs Donny by the hair.

MAN

I know your name. But it only works if you say it.

DONNY
(In realization)
You're actually insane. You are
actually, literally insane, aren't
you?

MAN
(Calmly)
I'm not insane.

DONNY
Well, then what do you call tying
someone up to a chair and -

MAN
I am not insane! And it's you types
that make me drink in the first
place, you know that?

DONNY
What do you want?

Releasing Donny, the man rubs his face before returning to
his grocery bag. He pulls out a candle, which he sets next
to Donny before lighting it with his cigarette lighter.

MAN
For atmosphere.

The man pulls the scissors out of the bag.

DONNY
What are you - what are you gonna
do with -

MAN
Quit asking stupid questions,
please. It aggravates my ulcer.

With a snip, a lock of Donny's hair falls to the floor. The
man looks Donny in the eyes.

DONNY
What - what are you -

MAN
Shut up.

The man takes another snip.

DONNY
Look, I don't know who you think I
am, but trying to make me look
like-

MAN
I said shut up!

The man take several more snips, but Donny just looks bemused as more locks fall to the floor. The man rubs his face in impatience.

MAN

Fine. We do it your way.

And the man pulls the razor out of the bag. He turns it on, and the buzz echoes through the warehouse.

DONNY

What are you -

MAN

I did some reading up on you. And if the scissors don't do it for you, well, then...

The man approaches Donny.

DONNY

(Shifting in his seat)

No, please - I, I don't like razors. I had a bad experience with one, I make my barber only use scissors, please, I'm begging you -

MAN

I don't know what you're griping about. This is your own fault.

And the man begins to shave Donny's head.

DONNY

NO! PLEASE, STOP, I'M BEGGING YOU.
PLEASE STOP!

MAN

Say your name.

DONNY

(Almost in tears)

Please - if there is any good inside of you, please -

MAN

(Getting impatient)

Say your name!

DONNY

...No!

MAN

SAY YOUR NAME!

Donny lets out a blood-curdling scream - but it is the scream of a woman. For a flash, it looks like a beautiful, dark-haired woman is tied up to the chair instead of Donny. The man reels back. But after a moment, Donny is back -

grinning. He chuckles, but it is a woman's laugh.

DONNY

(In a woman's voice)

You son of a bitch. You knew.

MAN

I told you.

DONNY

(In a woman's voice)

Well, there's no point putting off
the inevitable then, is there, if
I'm going one way or the other?

MAN

Again, I told you.

DONNY

(In a woman's voice)

Well, then listen well - because
this name will be the name that
haunts your children and your
children's children. I am the woman
of Sorek - slayer of Judges and
Nazirites that shook nations! I
slew the mighty Samson, binding him
in heart and body. I am Delilah!

At the sound of the name, the man seizes Donny and sets
about shaving the rest of Donny's head.

DONNY

(In a woman's voice,
continued screaming as
the man shaves his head)

I destroyed a prophet of God, I
will destroy you, too! I will drag
you to hell and all your cursed
seed with you! But before that - I
will rip out your throat with my
teeth! I will -

The man shaves off the last bit of hair. Donny lets out the
most blood-curdling woman's scream, shaking the warehouse.
The candle's flame blows out - and Donny's head sinks.
Slowly, he starts to come to.

DONNY

What - what is, what...

The man extinguishes his cigarette.

MAN

Hello, Donny.

FIN