

PHONE BOOTH
What happens if I hang up?

Man/Man
Thriller

STU, 30, starts to vacate the PHONE BOOTH. The PHONE rings. And rings. Curious, he picks up the receiver. There's a voice on the other end of the line. A distinctive MALE VOICE.

VOICE

Don't even think about leaving that booth.

STU

What?

VOICE

Stay exactly where you are and listen carefully.

STU

I've got a heavy day, mister.

VOICE

You know better than to disobey me.

STU

I don't know you at all.

VOICE

Are you absolutely sure?

STU

Where? Where are you?

VOICE

Closer than you think.

STU

Who is this?

VOICE

Someone who's watching you.

STU

Alright, bullshit artist, what am I doing right now?

VOICE

Scratching your forehead with your left hand. Now you're brushing your hair back.

STU

Why should I be interested in some creep who gets his jollies spying on strangers in phone booths?

VOICE

But you're not a stranger, Stu.

The sound of his own name sends a chill through him.

STU

Who put you up to this?

VOICE

You were my very own selection.

STU

Why me in particular?

VOICE

Because you're so afraid.

STU

Ha! What've I got to be afraid of?
That's it. This call is ended.

VOICE

Not until I say it is.

Stu knows he should simply hang up but something tells him not to. Perhaps it's the strange tone of the man's voice.

STU

What happens if I hang up?

VOICE

You don't really want to find out.

STU

I'm dying to hear this! What the fuck can you do about it - up in your fucking high window with your goddam binoculars?

VOICE

I never indicated I had binoculars.
I have a highly magnified telescopic image of you.

STU

What? You mean... like a rifle?

VOICE

Yeap. Can you feel it on you now? A tiny red dot now moves across Stu's chest.

VOICE

Relax, you're doing better than the others.

STU

What others? What do you mean? (no reply) You said 'others!'

VOICE

(finally)

You read about the tourist shot dead ten days ago at the corner of Forty-fifth and Eighth?

STU

I saw it on the news.

VOICE

And where are we now?

STU

Oh, God. Why? What did he do?

VOICE

He hung up.