

HIDE by Joe Russell

Actors: Taxi Driver, Victim, Robber, Undercover Officer, Police Officer

Two chairs are situated to the side, posing as a car. Taxi Driver walks in and sits in the driver's seat and begins to drive. In steps Victim, standing there and flags down the taxi. Taxi Driver winds the window down.

Taxi Driver:

Where to mate?

Victim:

Fifth street, please.

Victim goes to jump into the cab just as Robber runs in, pushes Victim out of the way and sits in the cab.

Robber:

Quick, GO!

Taxi Driver:

But Sir....

Victim:

Hey, that's my cab.

Robber pulls a gun out, first pointing it Victim and then Taxi Driver.

Victim:

Woo. Okay, it's your cab.

Taxi Driver:

Okay sir, as you say.

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Robber:

GO!

Taxi drives off, Victim walks backwards to give off the impression the cab is driving away. Victim leaves the stage.

Taxi Driver:

Sir, I'm driving. Please, put the gun down.

Robber:

Fine, no funny business though.

Taxi Driver:

I'm just a humble taxi driver. I have three kids, I won't try anything. I promise.

Freeze frame on the taxi. Police Officer and Victim appear the other side of the stage.

Police Officer:

'Ello, ello, ello. What have we here then?

Victim:

Well, Officer. I was hailing down a cab and then this armed man pushed me aside and threatened me with a gun.

Police Officer:

Well, that sounds dangerous Sir. Are you alright? Do you need an ambulance?

Victim:

Officer, I'm fine – but the Taxi driver. He's still in danger.

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Police Officer:

Absolutely. I have a plan that'll catch him and help protect the Taxi Driver.

Victim:

Good. I'm worried about him.

Police Officer:

Let me make a call.

Both leave the stage as the taxi comes back to life.

Taxi Driver:

Sir, I know this area well. School kids will be walking around and their parents. I better slow down.

Robber:

If you slow down, you'll be in for it!

Taxi Driver:

Yes, sir. But...

Robber:

Keep on driving, or else!

At that moment Undercover Officer walks in with a buggy in front of the car. The car screeches to a halt, both Robber and Taxi Driver lurch forwards. Taxi Driver instinctively exits the car to check on the frightened woman.

Taxi Driver:

Ma'am, are you okay.

Undercover Officer:

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Oh my goodness. Why are driving so fast? It's a school zone!

Robber exits the car, shouting at Taxi Driver.

Robber:

Get back in the car, NOW!

Undercover Officer:

Excuse me! You won't be driving away. You almost run me and my child over.

Taxi Driver:

I'm so sorry.

Robber:

You, back in the car! Move out of our way now!

Undercover Officer:

I won't be doing any such thing, thank you very much!

Robber walks over to Undercover Officer and the buggy, pulls his gun down to his side.

Robber:

Move out of the way!

Undercover Officer:

I'm not moving! You'll have to move me.

Robber:

RIGHT!

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Grabs the buggy handles to push it off the road. But then realise there's nothing in the buggy, just cans of food.

There's no baby here. Just cans!

Undercover Officer:

Funny that!

Robber:

What?! My hands. They're stuck. I can't move them!

Undercover Officer:

That's weird!

Robber:

What's going on?!

Undercover Officer pulls a gun, pointed at Robber.

Undercover Officer:

PUT DOWN THE GUN! NOW PUNK!

Robber stops suddenly, lets go of his gun which drops to the floor.

Undercover Officer:

Undercover police. You're nicked sunshine!

Taxi Driver:

Woo! I didn't see that coming!

Both Victim and Police Officer enter the stage.

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Victim:

That's him Officer! Arrest that man!

Police Officer moves in and takes Robber and the buggy off stage.

Police Officer:

I'm arresting you for armed robbery and threats to kill, you do not have to say anything....

Victim and Taxi Driver:

Thank you, Ma'am.

Undercover Officer:

You're welcome! Now, I believe this taxi is yours!

Victim:

Yes.

Undercover Officer:

Drive safely!

Taxi Driver:

Yes, Officer!

THE END