

OCD (Based on a true story)

by

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EXT. CAR PARK - DAY

It is a sunny day. JAMES is alone, kneeling down and staring into his stationary car's off headlights. He has parked cars on both his sides. In front of him is a road without traffic and in front of that are more parked cars. A MAN (60) in everyday clothes approaches JAMES and scratches his head.

MAN

Are you ok, there?

JAMES keeps staring at his lights.

JAMES

Fine thanks.

MAN

What are you doing?

JAMES

Nothing, good day.

MAN

No, seriously, what are you doing?

JAMES

Just checking my lights are off.

MAN

You've been sitting there for five minutes...

JAMES

Yes. Just checking.

MAN

It's not obvious?

JAMES

Again, just checking.

MAN

They look off to me.

JAMES sighs with relief but keeps staring. The MAN screws his face up.

JAMES

Are you sure?

MAN

Errr...

JAMES

Are you?

MAN  
I THINK so...

JAMES  
But not completely?

MAN  
I have to be honest, I haven't been quite so sure in a long time. Most people would feel unbearable pain if they stared at such a bright light for that long...

JAMES  
Great, you're sure.

JAMES gets up and repeatedly tries to open his car door.

MAN  
What are you doing now?

JAMES  
Just checking my door's locked...

MAN  
It's fairly simple to get your head around, you just pull it a bit. Let me try.

The MAN tries to open the door.

MAN  
Seems locked to me.

JAMES  
I broke my last car's door because I kept trying to open it all the time.

MAN  
I see...

JAMES  
Not completely though. Just a bit.

MAN  
Just a bit? What's just a bit mean?

JAMES  
I didn't completely break my door, I just made it dodgy...

The MAN puts his hands on his hips.

MAN  
I have to be honest with you, YOU  
look dodgy.

JAMES looks offended.

JAMES  
What do you mean?

MAN  
You look like you're a car thief...

JAMES  
Oh.

MAN  
I want you to be honest with me...

JAMES  
Yes?

MAN  
Is that car yours?

JAMES face palms.

JAMES  
Yes! Now I just need to check the  
windows are closed.

MAN  
For God's sake, why?!

JAMES  
In case someone takes something from  
my car!

The MAN goes red.

MAN  
YOU'RE the thief!

JAMES  
Come on. Why would I take this car  
and not any of the others?

MAN  
It's the cleanest?

JAMES  
I don't have to put up with this, I'm  
going home. Now where did I put my  
keys?

MAN

A-ha!

JAMES

I do have keys to this car, actually.  
Somewhere...

MAN

Why do you check your car so much and  
not your keys?

JAMES

An interesting point...

MAN

Well?

JAMES

You've never lost your keys?

MAN

I have lost my keys, but I've never  
seen anything like this before.  
You're going to end up on TV. One of  
those dumbest criminal shows. Even  
the stupidest of people know you  
can't break into a car by looking at  
it.

Another MAN (40) approaches the two. He talks to the 60 year  
old.

OTHER MAN

What's going on here? You look really  
scared.

MAN

I am scared. We're looking at the  
most lengthy, poorly planned and  
ridiculous crime here..

JAMES

Ow!

MAN

What?

JAMES

There's something in my shoe...

JAMES takes his shoe off. His keys fall out of it.

JAMES

THERE they are!

The two MEN stare hard at JAMES'S feet.

MAN

Your keys were in your shoe?

JAMES

Yes!

MAN

How did they get there and how the hell didn't you notice them?

JAMES puts his shoe back on and opens his car door.

JAMES

I'm just as surprised as you, believe me. Bye.

OTHER MAN

Something profoundly and freakishly weird is going on here...

MAN

I know! He's confused as both so we don't know what to do!

JAMES stares hard at his feet.

JAMES

Oh good, my shoes are on. I think. Sorry, what?

MAN

I'll call the police. Saying he was checking 'his' car for so long. He was admiring it. Fantasising about joyriding and then jealously crashing into another car out of his league.

JAMES ignores the MAN, gets in his car and drives away. The MEN never takes his eyes off him.