

MARY. (*On phone.*) Operator, do you think you could get me Wimbledon Police Station, please—

BARBARA. (*On phone.*) Operator—?

MARY. (*On phone.*) Thank you.

BARBARA. (*On phone.*) Could you put me through to Streatham Police Station, please—

MARY. (*On phone.*) Hello?

BARBARA. (*On phone.*) Thank you.

MARY. (*On phone.*) Is that Wimbledon Police Station? ... I'm sorry to trouble you, Sergeant, but I'm a bit worried about my husband.

BARBARA. (*On phone.*) Streatham Police? I'm rather concerned about my husband?

MARY/BARBARA. (*Together, on phone.*) Mr. John Smith.

MARY. (*On phone.*) I'm Mrs. Mary Smith.

BARBARA. (*On phone.*) Barbara Smith.

MARY. (*On phone.*) Number 25.

BARBARA. (*On phone.*) Number 47.

MARY. (*On phone.*) Kenilworth Avenue.

BARBARA. (*On phone.*) Lewin Road.

MARY. (*On phone.*) Wimbledon.

BARBARA. (*On phone.*) Streatham.

MARY. (*On phone.*) London, S.W. 19.

BARBARA. (*On phone.*) London, S.W. 16.

MARY. (*On phone.*) John Smith, that's right. He's a taxi driver.

BARBARA. (*On phone.*) He's a taxi driver.

MARY. (*On phone.*) I woke up this morning and he hadn't come home. He was due back at 12 o'clock last night.

BARBARA. (*On phone.*) He was due back this morning at 7:30.

MARY. (*On phone.*) From the late shift.

BARBARA. *(On phone.)* From the early shift. It's gone 8:30 and he's always so punctual.

MARY. *(On phone.)* I wouldn't worry except that he keeps to a very exact schedule.

BARBARA. He has this very precise schedule, you see.

MARY. *(On phone.)* But he does put in a lot of overtime. I'm worried—

BARBARA/MARY. *(Together, on phone.)* He might have fallen asleep at the wheel of his taxi.

BARBARA. *(On phone.)* Hospitals?

MARY. *(On phone.)* No, I haven't.

BARBARA. *(On phone.)* Would you?

MARY. *(On phone.)* Thank you very much.

BARBARA. *(On phone.)* I'm very grateful.

MARY. *(On phone.)* Well, he's sort of commonplace really.

BARBARA. *(On phone.)* Average, I suppose.

MARY/BARBARA. *(Together, on phone.)* Medium height, brown hair, blue eyes—sort of cuddly.

MARY. *(On phone.)* Distinguishing marks?

BARBARA. *(On phone.)* Not really.

MARY. *(On phone.)* No.

BARBARA/MARY. *(Together on phone.)* He's very ordinary ... Thank you.

*(BARBARA and MARY each put down their phone and think for a moment. Mary's DOORBELL is heard off. MARY reacts and hurries out into her hall, ULC. During the ensuing dialogue BARBARA goes up to her window and looks out. SHE then picks up her "squeegee" from the table above settee and exits DL into kitchen.)*

MARY. *(Off.)* Oh, my goodness!

JOHN. *(Off.)* Hello!