

LUTHER

Season 1, Episode 3

Luther & Burgess

INT. BURGESS'S SHOP - DAY

BURGESS works on his laptop. LUTHER enters and looks around at the books and art.

BURGESS

John?

LUTHER

Yeah. How'd you know that?

BURGESS

We do most of our trade online or by appointment. (Finishes with the laptop.) So. I'm all yours. What's your pleasure?

LUTHER

500 quid for a poem hand-illustrated by the Yorkshire Ripper. Huh. 750 quid for a letter from the Ripper to a female correspondent. Wow.

BURGESS

Well, that includes a small self-portrait: Sutcliffe snuggling up to a woman. Large-breasted.

LUTHER

Hmm.

BURGESS

But do you know there's nothing new under the sun? There used to be quite a trade in handkerchiefs dipped in the blood of hanged men. Hair clippings, snuff boxes, garters, cravat pins.

LUTHER

Who would buy them?

BURGESS

Young women, mostly.

LUTHER

Wow. Young Women. Even stuff like this?

Luther scans other books.

LUTHER (CONT'D)

Peter Kurten, The Vampire of Dusseldorf. Richard Trenton Chase, The Vampire of Sacramento. Women buy this stuff?

BURGESS

It's a kink. A sex thing. Many, many women fantasize about being tied up, strangled, raped, eaten.

LUTHER

You think so?

BURGESS

Oh yeah. The more depraved the killer, the more women fawn on him. It's called Hybristophilia.

LUTHER

Sexual arousal with thoughts of violence.

BURGESS

It's his willingness to murder that attracts her. His murder becomes hers.

LUTHER

Hmm. Well, I have a confession.

BURGESS

Really?

LUTHER

Yeah.

He reaches into his coat pocket and takes out a copy of BURGESS'S BOOK - "SACRIFICIAL LAMB".

BURGESS

My autobiography. You're a fan?

LUTHER

You got me.

BURGESS

Of course you know if I sign this its resale value increases hugely. I'll be putting money in your pocket.

LUTHER

I know.

BURGESS
You're a dealer?

LUTHER
Collector. And I'm paying.

BURGESS
Well, it's two hundred and fifty.

LUTHER
Are you serious?

BURGESS
Oh, yes. I've quite the following.

LUTHER
Well, you've got yourself a deal.
Here you go.

Luther purposely fumbles the book while handing it over.
Burgess reaches out and catches it -- with his LEFT HAND.

LUTHER (CONT'D)
Good catch.

Burgess sits down to sign the book. Grabs a pen. Holds it in his LEFT HAND. Beat. Just as he's about to sign, Burgess switches the pen to his right hand. He signs and hands the book back to Luther.

BURGESS
There you are.

Luther gives him the money.

LUTHER
"Sacrificial Lamb".

BURGESS
Yes.

LUTHER
Huh. Yeah. Well...

Luther pockets the book and exits.