

“STARLINE ONE SEVENTEEN”

Written by

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Starline One Seventeen

SYNOPSIS

In a small airport Edgar Stanson has been sitting in the same seat for two days. When asked by security if he needs assistance he tells them he has arrived on Starline flight 117 and is waiting to be picked up by his driver.

Security tells him they will call his driver for him. He gives them the number to call. The phone number connects to a funeral home. When security go back to Edgar they find him dead.

They also find out that Starline was a small airline whose first flight 117 crashed twenty five years ago with no survivors. All bodies but one were found and they were taken to the funeral home which security called. Edgar Stanson has finally returned home.

CAST:

EDGAR JEROME STANSON: Male.

OFFICER RUSSELL: Male.

OFFICER BROOKE: Female.

CHRISSY FAITH: Female.

DALE FAITH: Male.

WOMAN PASSANGER: Female.

GABE: Male. (voice only)

TWO PARAMEDICS: Male or Female.

INTERCOM ANNOUNCER: Male or Female. (voice only)

FEW EXTRAS: Male or Female. (can be performed without the extras if desired)

SET:

AIRPORT TERMINAL

Minimum: Few rows of seats. Security desk with telephone.

FULL SET:

Same as minimum but with a backdrop of the inside of an airport terminal with a window.

FAITH FUNERAL PARLOR

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1 desk with a phone on it.

WARDROBE:

2 security officer uniforms or similar.

2 paramedic uniforms or similar.

A suit for Edgar.

PROPS:

Clipboard, paper and pen.

1 gurney or something similar capable of placing Edgar on and wheeling him out of the terminal.

Magazines. (any kind)

Large sign reading, "Valley Airport, Gate 9".

Walkie Talkie or something similar.

A blanket. A wallet. Large envelope with a letter in it.

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ACT:

INT. AIRPORT TERMINAL-NIGHT

All flights are grounded due to a heavy rain storm. This is not a very busy airport

In the terminal we see EDGAR STANSON sitting quietly in one of the seats dressed in a smart three piece suit. Edgar has a small scar shaped like a half moon under his right eye. There are no other people sitting near him.

About twenty feet from where Edgar is sitting is the security desk.

A few people enter, walk the stage and exit.

OFFICER RUSSELL, male and OFFICER BROOKE, pretty female, enter. They stop and look outside.

OFFICER BROOKE

Pretty miserable weather out there. They're going to delay.

OFFICER RUSSELL

It'll be a slow night at gate nine.

OFFICER BROOKE

Every night's a slow night Russell.

OFFICER RUSSELL

Believe me Brooke, I've worked the big ports and this small one is heaven compared to something like L-A-X.

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A message comes over the airport terminal's intercom system.

INTERCOM VOICE

Attention. Due to inclement weather all outgoing flights have been delayed. All incoming flights are being diverted to Light Tower Airport. Thank you.

OFFICER BROOKE

There it is.

OFFICER RUSSELL

Well there aren't too many passengers to get excited over it.

Officer's Russell and Brooke walk over to the security desk.

OFFICER RUSSELL

I'll call us in.

Officer Russell uses his walkie talkie.

OFFICER RUSSELL

Officer Russell and Officer Brooke, secure at gate nine.

Officer Brooke stares at Edgar.

What are you looking at?

OFFICER BROOKE

That man in the waiting seat. He's still here.

OFFICER RUSSELL

He's going to be here a lot longer with the delays.

OFFICER BROOKE

He's been in that seat for two days. I think we should question him.

OFFICER RUSSELL

He hasn't really done anything suspicious. He's just sitting there.

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OFFICER BROOKE

I know and I'd hate to have a situation if it isn't warranted but we can't be too careful now days.

OFFICER RUSSELL

Alright let's go over and talk to him.

Officer's Russell and Brooke go over to Edgar.

OFFICER RUSSELL

Good morning sir. I'm Officer Russell and this is Officer Brooke.

EDGAR

Good morning. I'm Edgar Jerome Stanson.

OFFICER RUSSELL

Is everything alright Mister Stanson?

EDGAR

I would hope so.

OFFICER BROOKE

Are you waiting for a flight sir?

EDGAR

I'm waiting for my driver. He's going to take me home.

OFFICER BROOKE

Well we couldn't help but notice that you've been sitting here for two days. Is there a chance your driver forgot to come for you?

EDGAR

He may not know I'm here.

OFFICER RUSSELL

Have you tried calling your driver?

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EDGAR

I lost my wallet, I have no money.

OFFICER RUSSELL

If you have the number we can call for you.

EDGAR

That would be nice.

Officer Russell hands Edgar a pen and a piece of paper. Edgar writes down a phone number and gives it to Officer Russell.

OFFICER RUSSELL

Is there anyone in particular I should ask for?

EDGAR

I don't know. All I know is that these are the people who are supposed to pick me up.

OFFICER BROOKE

Excuse me sir but what flight did you come in on?

EDGAR

I was on Starline, flight one seventeen.

Officer Brooke gives Officer Russell a "never heard of it" look.

OFFICER BROOKE

Thank you.

(beat)

Oh one more thing sir, and although this isn't unusual, but I notice you have no baggage?

EDGAR

I have baggage, I just don't know where it is.

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OFFICER BROOKE

Would you like to fill out a lost claim form?

EDGAR

Do you really think you can locate it?

OFFICER BROOKE

Well we can try.

Edgar thinks for a few seconds.

EDGAR

No, it contains nothing I need now. Thank you anyway.

OFFICER RUSSELL

Have a good day sir. We'll make that call for you.

Officers Brooke and Russell walk over to the security desk.

OFFICER BROOKE

Starline? Never heard of it.

OFFICER RUSSELL

Maybe it's a small private line.

OFFICER BROOKE

Well private or not, if it landed here it's in our records. And why isn't he concerned about his baggage, or his wallet?

OFFICER RUSSELL

I don't know. Maybe it's just like he said, he has no need for what's in it.

Officer Brooke looks over to Edgar who is still sitting peacefully in his chair. She then looks at Officer Russell.

OFFICER BROOKE

Or maybe what's in it is something he doesn't want to be around.

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OFFICER RUSSELL

What are you getting at Brooke?

OFFICER BROOKE

Contraband, or maybe explosives.

OFFICER RUSSELL

All planes and the terminal have been swept clean and security cleared. And besides, do you honestly think he would be sitting there if his baggage contained what you're thinking it may contain?

OFFICER BROOKE

Hard to tell now days. I think we should run another security sweep. Just to be safe.

OFFICER RUSSELL

Alright.

Officer Russell calls down to Edgar.

Mister Stanson, we'll make your call shortly.

Edgar smiles and nods.

Officer Russell and Brooke exit the stage.

A WOMAN PASSANGER enters and goes over to where Edgar is sitting. She looks out at the rain and then turns to Edgar.

WOMAN PASSANGER

Hello, do you mind if I sit here?

EDGAR

No, by all means.

The Woman Passenger sits next to Edgar.

WOMAN PASSANGER

I sure hope they lift the delays soon. I'm a promotional agent for a traveling theater group and we're just coming off of a three month tour. All I want to do now is get home.

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EDGAR

Yes I can understand that. I've been traveling very long myself too. Airport to airport, and I have just gotten tired of it.

WOMAN PASSANGER

What field of work are you in?

EDGAR

I worked for the government.

WOMAN PASSANGER

That sounds exciting.

EDGAR

Oh it was nothing like that. Most of time I was stuck behind a typewriter.

WOMAN PASSANGER

Typewriter? I though computers made the typewriter obsolete?

EDGAR

Maybe one day they will.

The Woman Passenger smiles and picks up a magazine.

Officer Russell enters, goes to the security desk and picks up the phone. He calls down to Edgar.

OFFICER RUSSELL

I'm making your call now.

EDGAR

Thank you.

Edgar sits quietly while the Woman Passenger picks up a magazine and browses through it.

INT. FUNERAL PARLOR AND AIRPORT TERMINAL-NIGHT

The lights come up on funeral parlor set.

Sitting in a small office behind a desk is CHRISSY FAITH, early 20's, female, pretty. The phone on the desk rings and she picks it up.

CHRISSY FAITH

Faith Funeral Parlor, Chrissy

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Faith speaking, may I help you?

OFFICER RUSSELL

Good morning, my name is Jack Russell. I'm a security officer at Valley Airport. I was given this number by a Mister Edgar Stanson who arrived here on Starline flight one seventeen. He said that one of your drivers are to pick him up and take him home. He's been here for two days.

CHRISSY FAITH

I don't know anything about this. You say we are to pick him up?

OFFICER RUSSELL

Yes. That's what he told us.

CHRISSY FAITH

What is his name again?

OFFICER RUSSELL

Edgar Jerome Stanson. He was on Starline flight one seventeen.

CHRISSY FAITH

Can you hold please I'll check with my father, maybe he knows about this.

Chrissy places down the phone and walks to the stage entrance/exit (the cellar).

BANGING and CLANGING sounds are heard.

Dad, are you down there?

INT. FUNERAL PARLOR-CELLAR-NIGHT-NO SET-OFF STAGE-CONT

Dale Faith, male, 50ish and his helper Gabe, male, late teens, a little slow in the brain are moving coffins around the cellar. The coffins are on large wheeled gurneys.

DALE FAITH (O.S)

What is it Chrissy?

CHRISSY FAITH

There's a security officer from Valley Airport on the phone. He

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said they have a passenger that we're supposed to pick up. A Mister Edgar Jerome Stanson who arrived on Starline Flight One Seventeen.

DALE FAITH (O.S.)
(concerned)

I'm coming up.

Dale stops what he is doing.

Gabe don't try to move these caskets by yourself. Wait until I get back.

GABE (O.S.)
I can handle it Mister Faith.

Dale Faith enters.

A loud CRASH is heard coming from the cellar.

DALE FAITH
Gabe wait until I get back. We don't need dents in them.

GABE (O.S.)
Sorry Mister Faith.

DALE FAITH
After all when your time comes you wouldn't want to be lying in one that has dents in it, would you?

GABE (O.S.)
When my time comes Mister Faith I don't care how many dents are in the coffin because I'm not getting in it. They're not gonna bury me alive even if I am dead. But I'll wait until you come back before I move anymore.

The lights go down on the funeral parlor set as Dale and Chrissy walk over to her desk.

At the airport terminal Officer Brooke enters and comes over to Officer Russell.

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OFFICER BROOKE

No Starline flight one seventeen ever landed at this airport. I searched the fifteen year history of this airport and I can't find any reference to an airline called Starline Flights. What have you come up with?

OFFICER RUSSELL

The number he gave me to call is a funeral parlor.

Officer Russell and Officer Brooke look over to Edgar who is still sitting peacefully in his chair.

Edgar turns to them and smiles. They smile back.

OFFICER BROOKE

A funeral parlor?

OFFICER RUSSELL

Morticians have friends to Brooke.

The lights come up on the funeral parlor set.

Dale has the phone.

DALE FAITH

Hello my name is Dale Faith, sorry to keep you waiting. Did you say the person whom we are to pick up is a Mister Edgar Jerome Stanson and that he was aboard Starline Flight One Seventeen?

OFFICER RUSSELL

That's correct.

DALE FAITH

Can you please describe his appearance to me?

OFFICER RUSSELL

He's about six feet tall, dark brown hair, brown eyes, clean

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shaven, wearing a three piece dark blue suit with a silver tie, and he has a small scar shaped like a half moon under his right eye.

DALE FAITH

That sounds like Edgar Stanson. Is he still there?

OFFICER RUSSELL

Yes, gate nine.

DALE FAITH

I'll be right over for him.

OFFICER RUSSELL

Thank you.

The lights go down on the funeral parlor set.

Dale and Chrissy exit the stage.

INT. AIRPORT TERMINAL-NIGHT (CONT)

Officer Russell hangs up the phone and stands with his back to Edgar and in front of Officer Brooke. Neither he nor Officer Brooke can see Edgar.

OFFICER RUSSELL

He's coming to pick him up. I guess he just forgot about him. It happens.

OFFICER BROOKE

What about the flight he said he was on? There is no such airline.

OFFICER RUSSELL

Apparently there is because this Dale Faith asked me to confirm that Mister Stanson was on Starline flight one seventeen.

OFFICER BROOKE

I can't find that flight or airline in our records. And on a name search only three Edgar Jerome Stanson's came up. One is

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a ninety year old nursing home resident, one is in prison, and I love this, for train robbery, I though that went out with Jesse James. And the other one is deceased. Cause of death not given.