

Devious Red

a birthday gift for Daveous Kane by johnmichael rossi

[you beat 27]

CHARACTERS:

DEVIOUS RED

MAN with KANGAROO EARS

[DEVIOUS RED walks for miles and miles before he stops, in pretty much the same place he's been, or seen, and is trying to leave. It's nothing that he imagined walking for hours upon hours, would find. It's the same. He sits on a stump.]

DEVIOUS RED

Aw shizzlespiccups!

Five. Fifteen, fifty miles. hours, minutes.

I don't know. Same shit. Same ole shit.

This place smells thicker though. Thick air.

Friggincallousfoot... shuckzit!

I'm thirsty.

[MAN with KANGAROO EARS pops in]

[MAN with KANGAROO EARS pops out]

Did you see that? I saw that.

(pause)

I didn't see that. I didn't see nuttin'.

[MAN with KANGAROO EARS walks by][and off]

[DEVIOUS RED gets up to follow but stops himself]

[MAN with KANGAROO EARS runs on and takes position on DEVIOUS RED'S stump. D.R. Whirls around]

Hey! Hey, you, Kanagaroo! That's my stump.

[MAN with KANGAROO EARS nods his head]

Get off my stump!

D'you hear me? I've walked many many miles, leagues! To get to that stump.

[KANGAROO EARS stand up on stump and jumps up and down continuously, until he stops]

[D.R. Circles the stump eyeing KANGAROO EARS]

Now look you! Kangaroo! I been banished!
 I been banished from my own barren land, cuz
 the things i done ain't deemed right in the Land
 of Barren Lands- so i've been sent, millions
 upon millions of miles East. I've
 been walking for mere minutes and months
 alike. i been walking so long i done
 forgot everything i done, so there ain't
 no way in hell you're gonna harass me and steal
 my stump, because quite frankly, there's
 no telling what i may or may not do, if you don't
 remove yourself from this here stump. My stump,
 this instant, that i promise is an
 unpredictable moment that no one out there
 in that audience is going to want to
 experience. They deserve to be passive.
 This is their passive time, so that
 when they step back out of this cheesy theatre
 into the street into their lives,
 they may be active
 active they must be
 for action, in the name of something true
 something honest
 action-...
 Get off my STUMP!

*[KANGAROO EARS clears his throat. Sits back down. On the
 stump. Reaches into his pouch and pulls out a gun]*

Really?
 I am the devious R.E.D.
 I drink rum and swallow bullets for breakfast.
 Ain't no kangaroo with an outdated weapon
 gonna intimidate me.

*[KANGAROO EARS looks at gun. Shakes it, tosses it behind him
 and it fires in the background]*

Now, Roo. I mean you! I mean. Shut up!
 Okay.
 I will let you have the stump,
 if you give me money.

*[ROO EARS empties his pockets and pulls out his insides- he
 has nothing]*

Nothing. Figures. Friggin' Roos. Moochers. All of em.
 This is why i hate going in this direction-
 Kangaroos start comin' out of the woodwork,
 Hey Roo, Can you tell me where the
 Next Starbucks is?
 If you're not gonna give me my stump back-

at least point me in the direction of
coffee. No?

*[ROO EARS straightens his moustache. Rises. Dusts off the
stump, looks D.R. up and down in disgust. Walks off]*

Was it something i said?
The Starbucks? Everyone's got their own politics.
At least i got my stump back.

(sits)

Huh. Feels different. Feels uber-different.
Super uber different.

That Roo Man changed up my stump.
Feels all bumpy,

Never satisfied D.R. Never!

That's how you got yourself into this
mess.

Now they've stripped me of my imagination
and sent me a walking
Walking through the world with no imagination.

Dangerous minds. Un-minds.

You can't strip me of my imagination.

No matter how expansive it gets.

Hell! Ain't nobody gonna strip me of
my imagination!

I can go wherever i want!

This stump ain't just a stump.

This stump is a landmark. A
moment in history.

That man, the man with the Roo Ears

Today, i imagined i strangled him,

i beat him,

i made peace with him,

i became his best friend, his lover,

his surrogate mother

his pouch

today i imagined i was banished

i ran away

i'm just a block from home

worlds away

what can i say?

[the end].