



English Song
Activity
by the
Ruthless Teacher

Red right hand by *Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds*

(theme song for the TV show *Peaky Blinders*)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RrxepKps87k>



Listen to the song and complete the lyrics

Take a little walk to the of town

And go across the

Where the viaduct

Like a bird of doom

As it and cracks

Where secrets lie in the fires

In the humming

Hey man, you know

You're coming back

Past the square, past the

Past the mills, past the stacks

On a storm comes

A tall man

In a dusty black with

A red right hand

He'llyou in his arms

Tell you that you've been aboy

He'll all the dreams

It took you a lifetime to

He'll reach deep into the hole

.....your shrinking soul

But there won't be a thing

That you can do

He's a god, he's a man

He's a, he's a guru



They're his name
Through this disappearing land
But in his coat
Is a red right hand

You don't have no?

He'll get you some

You don't have no?

He'll get you one

You don't have no self-respect

You feel like an

Well don't you worry buddy

..... here he comes

..... the ghettos and the barrio

And the bowery and the

A shadow is cast wherever he stands

.....of green paper in his

Red right hand

You'll see him in your

You'll see him in your dreams

He'll out of nowhere but

He ain't what he

You'll see him in your head

On the TV

And hey buddy, I'm

You to turn it off

He's a, he's a god

He's a man, he's a guru

You're one cog

In his catastrophic plan

..... and directed by his red right hand





Read the article below and answer the questions on the next page

“The unlikely story behind Peaky Blinders theme song”

from *New York Post*, written by *Hardeep Phull*, 22/6/2016

<https://nypost.com/2016/06/22/the-unlikely-story-behind-peaky-blinders-theme-song/>



“He’s a man, he’s a ghost, he’s a god, he’s a guru.” So go the key lyrics of the “Peaky Blinders” theme tune — a song called “Red Right Hand” by Australian rock group Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds. It’s hard to imagine a better or more succinct description of the lead character, the charismatic Romani gang leader Tommy Shelby (played by Cillian Murphy). And the creeping, insidious feel of the song captures the murky, industrial world of early 1900s Birmingham, England, eerily well.

But it might come as a surprise to fans of the show to know that the song wasn’t written to order, but first came out over 20 years ago. “Red Right Hand” has undoubtedly found a new home as the theme to the BBC drama (which is screened by Netflix in the US, and has racked up four seasons to date). But it nearly wasn’t written at all. “It’s a song that has fairly humble beginnings,” remembers Mick Harvey, guitarist and co-founder of the Bad Seeds, (who is also credited as co-writer of “Red Right Hand” along with Cave and drummer Thomas Wydler). “Much of it came from a jam we were working on when we were writing songs for our album ‘Let Love In’ (released in 1994).” Cave didn’t think much of the song’s repeating groove at first, but was persuaded to reconsider by his band, and eventually wrote lyrics about a shadowy, alluring, and manipulative figure, stalking the land and striking a combination of fear and awe everywhere he goes. He’s seemingly part deity, part demon.

Aside from alluding to the phrase “red right hand,” taken from John Milton’s epic poem “Paradise Lost,” Cave has never revealed who this figure is. “I still find it all mysterious,” adds Harvey, who left the band in 2009. “I don’t want to know the details, and I’d never ask Nick. Sometimes it’s better to think ‘what the hell’s that all about?’ It’s better that it’s unknowable and spooky. The song has its own life now.”

Long before “Peaky Blinders” had even been conceived, “Red Right Hand” was catching the ear of film and TV producers looking for atmospheric and sinister music. It was featured on an episode of the “X-Files” in 1996, used in the first three “Scream” movies, and more bizarrely, it was used in 1994’s “Dumb and Dumber” — the slapstick buddy movie starring Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels as two simpletons traveling across the country in a dog van and attempting to return a suitcase to woman who doesn’t want it. “That happened quite by accident,” says Harvey. “I think it was filler music that was left in. They got in touch with our publisher the week of the film getting released. I didn’t even know about it until after the film was out. I’m not sure we would have wanted it in a film like that, but there you go!”

“Peaky Blinders” creator Steven Knight tells The Post that the original idea was to use “Red Right Hand” in the show’s first episode, but he installed it as the theme because it fit the characters, settings, and subplots perfectly. “The lyrics conjure up our industrial landscape and the ‘tall handsome man’ could, of course, be Tommy Shelby,” he says. As Cillian Murphy observed, there’s an outlaw quality to the music that feels absolutely appropriate to ‘Peaky Blinders.’”



Teacher's Copy-level C1-C2

Take a little walk to the edge of town

And go across the tracks

Where the viaduct looms

Like a bird of doom

As it shifts and cracks

Where secrets lie in the border fires

In the humming wires

Hey man, you know

You're never coming back

Past the square, past the bridge

Past the mills, past the stacks

On a gathering storm comes

A tall handsome man

In a dusty black coat with

A red right hand

He'll wrap you in his arms

Tell you that you've been a good boy

He'll rekindle all the dreams

It took you a lifetime to destroy

He'll reach deep into the hole

Heal your shrinking soul

But there won't be a single thing

That you can do

He's a god, he's a man

He's a ghost, he's a guru

They're whispering his name

Through this disappearing land

But hidden in his coat

Is a red right hand

You don't have no money?

He'll get you some

You don't have no car?

He'll get you one
You don't have no self-respect
You feel like an insect
Well don't you worry buddy
'cause here he comes
Through the ghettos and the barrio
And the bowery and the slum
A shadow is cast wherever he stands
Stacks of green paper in his
Red right hand

You'll see him in your nightmares
You'll see him in your dreams
He'll appear out of nowhere but
He ain't what he seems
You'll see him in your head
On the TV screen
And hey buddy, I'm warning
You to turn it off
He's a ghost, he's a god
He's a man, he's a guru
You're one microscopic cog
In his catastrophic plan
Designed and directed by
His red right hand

1. How is the main figure of the song described in the article?

A shadowy, alluring, and manipulative figure, stalking the land and striking a combination of fear and awe everywhere he goes. He's seemingly part deity, part demon

2. What is the origin of the title of the song?

Taken from John Milton's epic poem "Paradise Lost,"

3. What is "Dumb and dumber"?

The slapstick buddy movie starring Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels as two simpletons traveling across the country in a dog van and attempting to return a suitcase to a woman who doesn't want it.

4. What did the main actor of the show claim about the song?

There's an outlaw quality to the music that feels absolutely appropriate to 'Peaky Blinders.'"



Nicholas Edward Cave (born 1957) is an Australian musician, writer and actor. Known for his baritone voice and for fronting the rock band **Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds**, Cave's music is characterised by emotional intensity, a wide variety of influences and lyrical obsessions with death, religion, love, and violence. (source **Wikipedia**)

Check out his site: <https://www.nickcave.com/>

Song credits (from wikipedia)

"**Red Right Hand**" is a song by Australian rock band *Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds*. It was released as a single from their eighth studio album, *Let Love In* (1994), on 24 October 1994. A condensed version was included in the single, while the longer version was included with the album. The title comes from **John Milton**'s epic poem *Paradise Lost* (1667), in which it refers to the vengeful hand of God.

image credits (from wikimedia): Nick Cave by Amelia Troubridge

Peaky Blinders is a British period crime drama television series created by **Steven Knight**. Set in Birmingham, it follows the exploits of the Peaky Blinders crime gang in the direct aftermath of the **First World War**. The fictional gang is loosely based on a **real urban youth gang** who were active in the city from the 1880s to the 1910s.

Check out the trailer of the show:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EM12mcTEI88>

first image credits (from pixabay):

<https://pixabay.com/users/alexnick-15449044/>

second image credits (from pixabay):

<https://pixabay.com/users/lbrownstone-9491386/>



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