



Numb

Victor is numb in Edinburgh. He can't seem to keep warm, even though he regularly wears four to five layers of clothing. He dreams of going someplace sunny and warm, but he hasn't got the money to get there. He's 24, although officially speaking he's 6 as was born on Feb 29th – a leap year. It kind of sums up his life – most of it is missing.

His boss, Kenny, the wayward owner of Relish Records and Videos, hasn't paid him in months. Even so, Victor is such a regular fixture at Relish that customers routinely stop him on the street to hand him videos & DVD's they are too lazy to return. The business is on the brink of bankruptcy, not helped by the fact that Kenny has a fear of customers, and often ends up hiding in the toilet rather than serving them.

Victor's flatmate, Dugald, makes money by recklessly selling his body for scientific "research." Besides the cash, he winds up with an accumulation of bizarre, often indelicate side effects. Dugald's latest venture is to manage a small band called Sponge, which he is convinced will make him rich. Victor remains doubtful. Tommy, the band's deaf drummer develops a crush on Victor's mother.

Everything changes when Victor meets Amy, a plucky American bike courier, working illegally in Edinburgh. Suddenly the past comes flooding back. Victor's scared, but at the same time incredibly attracted to her. There is something oddly familiar about Amy. She is everything Victor isn't – confident, outgoing, etc.

When Dugald invites her to Victor's spontaneous birthday bash, she ends up piling a drunken Victor into a cab and heading for her flat, since he's too inebriated to tell her where he lives. Later, Amy recoils when she goes to put Victor to bed, after finding a collage of deep scars across his back when she tries to remove his many sweaters.

Amy decides not to mention the previous night's activities to her boyfriend, and boss Ewan, but she can't get Victor out of her mind. It makes her question her relationship with Ewan. Amy soon becomes intrigued by Victor. He's different than anybody she's ever met before, and they fall into a relationship. The closer they become the more difficult it becomes for Victor to tell her the truth about her involvement in his past.

When Victor's ailing father takes a turn for the worse, Amy accompanies Victor back home. There, he is bombarded by old memories and old pain. His father, a stubborn drunk, offers a bit of tender wisdom in a brief moment of sobriety. He tells Victor not to sit back and wait for good things to happen. If Amy really makes him feel that way, he should do whatever it takes to be with her.

On the way back, Amy finally confronts Victor about his scars. Victor explains where he saw Amy before. Across the street. She was so beautiful. He was crossing the street to speak to her when he was hit by a bus. Suddenly, Amy remembers the incident. Ewan was there, too, but pulled Amy away before she could go to help. She tells Victor that she thought that guy "had died." Victor replies, "I did."

Victor's revelation is too intense for Amy; she feels responsible for his accident. She feels confused about what she wants, and what she is still doing in Edinburgh. When was the last time she went home? Is she meant to be with Victor? What is she doing with her life? Amy



decides the only solution is to sever all ties with the past and end her relationship with both Ewan & Victor. She makes plans to leave Edinburgh.

Victor is devastated, no longer 'numb' to pain or emotion like he once was. He decides to confront his past, and go after the one thing in his life that makes sense: Amy.

Writer/Director: Colin Hutton
Producers: Lisa Neeley and Carlo Dusi
Cast: Charlie Cox
Budget: £1,500,000
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