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Suffering has many faces. This is Chris Froomes'

Chris Froome not looking like a TdF winner on the Madeleine

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Chris Froome first time up Alpe d’Huez

Chris Froome in trouble, 2nd trip up Alpe d’Huez

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Chris Froome in the second TT, finally looking at ease on his bike

Looking back at the Tour de France, images of Chris Froome looking like he'd rather be anyplace else than on a bike are inescapable. I've never met him so I don't know if he normally just looks like that, always a bit ill-at-ease. I can relate to that. On the other hand, the only time I feel comfortable is when I am on my bike. Physically and socially comfortable. It's just hard to believe this guy won the Tour de France.

Yes, you have to suffer to win, but guys like Merckx and Lance and Contador... they look like they're ready to rip an arm off if it would get them up the hill faster. They look like they're using pain as fuel. The only time I saw him look to be in his element was during the second time trial.