

Jesus Saved Me But I'm Still a Jew

By

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A dream of mine and the 1971 McDonaldland commercial and
character

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INT. ROUTE 66 TRUCK STOP

SAM, a thin, white man in his late twenties, seemingly from an urban or suburban area, pulls up to the empty truck stop on the dusty route 66 in his teal, 1970, four-door Cadillac. As he parks, dust clouds his surroundings. He sets foot on the dirty parking lot, dust clouding with every step he takes, until he enters the door of the truck stop restaurant. The year is 1988.

RESTAURANT OWNER

What can I do for yer?

The RESTAURANT OWNER is a thin, old man with a scruffy, tan , a raspy voice, and a western accent. Sam walks over to the barstools and takes a seat.

SAM

Yea lemme get a menu and a Coke for now? Thanks.

RESTAURANT OWNER

Sure thing. So what brings ya out to these lonely parts?

SAM

Makin' my way back from L.A.

RESTAURANT OWNER

Chasin' the dream, eh? (chuckles)
Guess that ain't turn out all peaches and cream for ya.

SAM

Ha something like that. Nah it's cool though, wasn't really chasin' anything, per se.

RESTAURANT OWNER

Per se, eh? Hm, ya don't say...

A purple, monster-like creature who is extremely overweight and furry, and a short, stocky man in a white t-shirt, leather jacket, tight denim jeans, with black, gelled hair that made his head look like a bowling ball walk in.

RESTAURANT OWNER

(mumbles to self)

Speakin' of back from L.A...

The monster and man sit down at the booth that is directly behind Sam.

RESTAURANT OWNER

Hey you know what you're gettin'?

SAM

Yea, I'll have a burger and fries,
thanks.

The monster, whose name is Grimace, and the man, whose name is Frankie, both quickly look up at each other after hearing Sam's order.

RESTAURANT OWNER

You got it boss. Fries're quick,
but the burger will take ya a lil'
time.

SAM

No worries. You got some ketchup
for the fries?

RESTAURANT OWNER

Yea, just grab a bottle from any of
those there booths.

Sam turns around to get a bottle of ketchup, and notices Grimace and Frankie starring at him. As soon as they catch his glance they sharply look away, burying their heads in their menus. Sam walks over to the next booth, grabs a glass bottle of ketchup, and sits back down at the barstool.

RESTAURANT OWNER

Here ya go, fries up.

SAM

Wow, that was quick.

RESTAURANT OWNER

I ain't a liar, boy. (laughs)

Sam quickly scarfs down his fries, and walks over to a juke box in the back of the restaurant to play around as he waits for his burger. Filled with songs from the 1940's, Sam puts a nickel in, but no sound comes out.

SAM

Hey man what's the deal with the
juke box?

RESTAURANT OWNER

(chuckles)

Ha she probably hasn't sung me a
song in over 25 years.

SAM
 (under his breath)
 Waste of a nickel.

Sam walks back to the barstool and takes a seat. His leg is rapidly shaking up and down in anticipation for his burger.

RESTAURANT OWNER
 (chuckling)
 Ya know, good thing ya ordered a burger up, 'cause we're pretty much outta everything else. You can imagine we don't get a lot of business.

SAM
 Refreshing...who's we, by the way?

RESTAURANT OWNER
 Well, we as in ol' me. And my silent lady ya just met over there.
 (laughs)
 Alrighty here ya go, burger up.

Sam rapidly eats his burger, making noises of satisfaction throughout. Grimace and Frankie are still looking at Sam when Sam doesn't notice. The burger is finished.

SAM
 Wow that was fantastic! Hey you got a bathroom?

RESTAURANT OWNER
 Yup, just past my lady juke box on the left.

SAM
 Thanks.

RESTAURANT OWNER
 You betcha.

As Sam goes to the bathroom, Frankie and Grimace look up at each other. Frankie shakes his head yes, and the two follow Sam into the bathroom. In the bathroom there are three urinals, two stalls, and two sinks. Sam is using the left urinal, closest to the sink. Grimace takes the urinal to his right, and Frankie washes his hands at the right sink, next to Sam.

Frankie looks in the mirror and sees his reflection wearing a black mask, black and white jail suit, red gloves, and a red tie with hamburger prints on it. He smiles with an evil look in his eye.

Sam is done with the urinal and Frankie moves over to the left sink so Sam can use the right sink. At the same time, Grimace moves over to the left urinal, yet again putting Sam in the middle. Sam moves over to dry his hands, and Frankie stands against the wall on the left of the drier, as Grimace washes his hands in the right sink, putting Sam in the middle.

SAM
(nervous)
Is there...a problem, guys?

Grimace and Frankie don't respond or move, but keep looking at Sam.

SAM
(nervous)
No? Ok, I'm just guna...go.

EXT. ROUTE 66

Sam bolts out of the bathroom, leaves the money for his meal on the table, and leaves the restaurant. With shaky hands, he unlocks the car after missing the lock a few times. As he sits in the drivers seat he notices Frankie on a motorcycle on his left, and Grimace in an identical teal Cadillac on his right. Panicking, Sam turns on the car and skids out of the lot, blowing up dust.

SAM
(freaking out, trying to calm down, talking quietly to himself)
Ok, it's in my head, fuck this.
Calm down, chill, what do I need, what do I need, what do I need?
Radio! Radio.

Sam turns on the radio.

RADIO
"Good time, great taste, that's why this is our place, the good time great taste of McDoanlds! Have-a have a burger, da-bah tick-tock doo-bah!"

Sam quickly shuts off the radio.

SAM
What the fuck...fuck it I can sing, good song, good song..hmmm.

(singing)
 'Never, never guna give you up,
 never never guna let you down,
 never guna turn around, and hurt
 you!'

FRANKIE
 (sitting in Sam's passenger
 seat)
 Ehhh, I liked the other one better.
 (snaps fingers to beat)
 'Good time, great taste, that's why
 this is our place'.

SAM
 (yells)
 Ahhh, what the hell!? How?! Get
 out!

GRIMACE
 (super deep chuckling)

Sam turns around quickly with a shocked look.

SAM
 Ah! How'd you get back there?!

GRIMACE
 (super deep laughter continues)

SAM
 Get out!

FRANKIE
 (calmly)
 Ok. Wise guy.

Frankie and Grimace disappear. Sam begins singing again, while looking around nervously. He passes by a McDonald's restaurant placed on the side of the desolate route 66.

SAM
 (whispering/singing)
 Never guna say goodbye, never guna
 tell a lie.
 (stops singing)
 What the FUCK!

Now FRANKIE is in the backseat, looking relaxed with his arms outspread. Grimace is in the front passenger seat, laughing slowly and deeply like before, starring at Sam the entire time. Sam begins to frantically beep his car's horn.

SAM
 (panicing, tearing)
 Stop! Stop it! Stop now!

FRANKIE
 Ok, wise guy.

Frankie and Grimace yet again disappear, and Sam puts his head down on the steering wheel and has a sigh of relief. He looks up to see Frankie driving a motorcycle directly in front of him, with Grimace riding on the back. Frankie stops short, and Sam slams into the motorcycle. As he runs the motorcycle over, a loud crunching and grinding sound is heard.

SAM
 No way! This is not happening! Holy shit!

Sam stops his car and pulls over. He get out of the car with his hands on his head. He discovers the busted motorcycle, but the riders are no where to be found. Sam then hears a loud, repetitive thump coming from the trunk, so he hesitantly walks over to the trunk.

SAM
 (whispering to self)
 What the f...

Sam opens the trunk to see Grimace and Frankie inside.
 ...UCK! Ah!

Sam falls onto the ground, crawls backwards in the dirt, then begins to sprint away. As he sprints and turns his head every few seconds, Frankie and Grimace are walking yet keeping up with him, only yards away. They both have big smiles on their faces. Sam runs until he gets to a nearby establishment, the Route 66 Diner and Drive-in. He runs into the parking lot entrance, which is lined with cars being served. Not looking forward, he runs into a waiter that is delivering food on skates, and they both fall over. The waiter is tall, thin, and has long brown hair and a beard He is wearing a crown of thorns.

EXT. ROUTE 66 DINER PARKING LOT

WAITER
 Ah man, ouch, you gotta watch it.

SAM
 (speaking very quickly,
 scared, panting)
 (MORE)

SAM (cont'd)
Sorry sorry sorry, here.

Sam puts his hand out and helps the waiter up.

SAM
You gotta help me man, there are these guys, purple monster and like a fuckin, uh, like Greaser dude from like 1950's lookin' kinda thing, they're followin' me man call the cops, quick!

WAITER
Grimace and Frankie...I know how to handle this, you just relax and stay by me, Sam.

SAM
(panting still)
Wait..you know these guys? And me? Who are-

WAITER
(chuckling)
It's kinda safe to say I know just about everybody, Sam.

Grimace and Frankie walk up to the drive-in, three cars over from the waiter and Sam. They look at the waiter and then nervously look back at each other.

WAITER
Grimace, Frankie. Don't make me do what you know I can do.

Grimace looks nervous, but Frankie spits towards the waiter and Sam to let them know he is not intimidated.

WAITER
Grimace...1971...Jodie Foster. Does Frankie have anything to say for you now?

FRANKIE
Yea how's about you-

Frankie is cut off by Grimace frantically tapping his shoulder, looking scared, and shaking his head 'no' to Frankie.

WAITER

Wise move, Grimace. It may be 1988,
but some of us still remember. I
know poor Jodie sure does...

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT. MCDONALDLAND 1971

In a forest filled with hamburger plants, RONALD MCDONALD, a young boy, and a young girl named JODIE FOSTER pop up. Melodically psychedelic piano is playing, and lyrics are sung by an unseen voice to complement the music as RONALD MCDONALD, the young boy, and JODIE FOSTER sit down on a large rock.

SINGER

(singing)

Get yourself ready for a trip
through McDonald Lan-and.

NARRATOR

It was a gloomy day in
McDonaldland...

YOUNG BOY

(sad)

No coke.

JODIE FOSTER

(disappointed)

No shakes.

Ronald McDonald sighs and looks down at the ground.

NARRATOR

Because the evil Grimace had
grabbed all the cups!

GRIMACE

(deep, dumb-sounding voice)

He-he-he, where's the coke? Where's
the shakes?

BACK TO PRESENT

Sobbing in his deep voice, Grimace runs away and Frankie follows.

WAITER

They won't be bothering you
anymore, Sam. Milkshake?

Grimace turns around quickly after hearing the word 'milkshake', and continues to run away, even more upset. The waiter skates over to the food window, brings back a milkshake for Sam, and then skates away over a puddle without getting wet. Sam looks at that with a puzzled look on his face, but shrugs it off and continues to enjoy his free milkshake.

RONALD MCDONALD appears behind Sam out of nowhere, forcing one hand over Sam's mouth, stroking Sam's cheek with the other hand. On the hand he is stroking with, he is wearing a sharp, Freddy Krueger-like knife contraption. Ronald McDonald's face is scarred and he has blood coming from his lip, bags around his eyes, and an evil look.

Sam has a shocked look on his face as he drops his milkshake and it splatters on the ground.

RONALD MCDONALD
(deep, sharp, voice)
You ain't goin' anywhere, kid...

SLOW FADE OUT BLACK