

**WHAT STARTS WORSE, ENDS BETTER**

Written by

Dale Trett

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[Daletrett@gmail.com](mailto:Daletrett@gmail.com)

FADE IN:

EXT. STREET - MORNING

MAT, (25), good looking, confident and cool.

He stands on a busy sidewalk, leans against a parked car and drinks a coffee.

An attractive girl passes Mat. They make eye contact.

Mat tips his coffee too soon and the hot coffee runs down his face and clothes.

MAT

Shit.

The girl laughs and continues walking.

Mat wipes his chin and pulls out his cell.

INT. CAR - MORNING

ADAM, (25), not unattractive, average build. He sits in the driving seat of a messy car. He stars out the window.

His cell rings. He jumps.

Mat's calling. Adam answers.

ADAM

Mat, what is it?

**INTERCUT** between Adam and Mat.

MAT

Somebody's happy toady.

ADAM

I'm trying to stake out his house.

MAT

You're going to lose your mind.

ADAM

Somebody has to watch him. You were supposed to watch him last night.

MAT

Calm your shit, Adam. I was there.

ADAM

But you didn't see anything.

MAT

His fat ass wasn't mobile.

ADAM

So what does that tell you?

MAT

That he's not cheating on his  
ridiculously hot wife and this  
whole case is a waste of our  
fucking time.

ADAM

Well. This is where the  
professional detective-me, over  
shines the amateur detective-you.

MAT

If you say so.

ADAM

It tells me he knows something is  
up and he's laying low until the  
heat is off.

MAT

The heat is off? What the fuck,  
Adam. We're private detectives not  
the fucking FBI. Stop being so  
serious.

ADAM

Being serious is our job. We need  
these cases.

A pretty girl jogs by Mat.

MAT

Hey, how's it going?

She smiles at Mat.

ADAM

What?

Mat's distracted.

MAT

What?

ADAM

Who were you talking to?

MAT

Nobody.

ADAM

It was a girl, wasn't it.

MAT  
I don't think so.

ADAM  
That's your problem. You're  
obsessed.

MAT  
One of us has to be.

ADAM  
But not with our clients.

MAT  
It's a form of investigation. It  
makes us money.

ADAM  
We haven't made money in months  
because of you, even the Johnsons  
refused to pay us.

MAT  
How was I supposed to know that  
misleading little bitch was a guy?

A passing man looks at Mat in disgust.

ADAM  
The overzealous arm hair and body  
odor wasn't enough for you?

MAT  
She's hot, or he was hot-- fuck.

ADAM  
That's why you're the amateur  
detective.

MAT  
Nobody told me he or she had a  
fucking sex exchange.

ADAM  
Change.

MAT  
God damn it. We said we weren't  
going to talk about this again.

ADAM  
Kinda wish you didn't call me now,  
huh?

MAT  
I'm trying to help us out here. I  
sleep with these women--

ADAM

Our clients.

MAT

With these clients, their paranoid husbands call you to find out who their cheating-ass wives have been sleeping with. It's a win, win, win.

ADAM

And what happens when the husbands catch up to you?

MAT

That won't happen.

ADAM

Whatever, can I go now?

MAT

What is this?

Adam is about to speak but hesitates.

MAT (CONT'D)

I know what this is about. It's the anniversary, isn't it?

ADAM

Don't be fucking stupid.

MAT

You need to forget about her.

ADAM

It's been four years since I last saw her.

MAT

Fucking Christ. She's been to college now, she isn't that sweet, little princess you once knew.

ADAM

I never told her how I felt. Things might have been different for us.

MAT

You were friends since kindergarten, you helped her pick her hair style, pick her shoes, all that gay shit. That's a friendship.

ADAM

But I knew her better than anybody.

MAT

She loved you like a brother, she didn't want to see you naked.

ADAM

Then why hasn't she spoken to me since she left?

MAT

She's knee deep in--

ADAM

Shut up. You wouldn't understand.

MAT

I've got some news about her. I wasn't going to tell you.

ADAM

Is it the truth?

Adam takes a sip from a soda can.

MAT

She moved back into town this week.

Adam spits out the soda in excitement.

ADAM

And you weren't going to fucking tell me. Why?

MAT

With her dick-piece boyfriend she met in New York. That's why.

ADAM

Fuck. What's he like?

MAT

I heard he's handsome, has great hair, a lot of money--

ADAM

You're an asshole.

MAT

Kinda wish you didn't answer the phone right now, huh?

Adam notices something across the street.

An obese man unlocks his car door.

ADAM

Holy shit. I see him, he's out.

MAT

What?

ADAM

His fat ass is on the move.

MAT

Oh fuck.

They hang up.

Mat throws his coffee in the air.

Adam does his seat belt and fumbles trying to put the key in the ignition.

The car door opens. Mat gets in.

The fat man pulls his car out of the drive and heads down the street.

Adam and Mat follow.

INT. CAR - DAY

Adam and Mat are parked across the street from a Pizza restaurant.

They both stare in amazement out the window.

They watch the fat man inside the pizza restaurant.

He sits alone and finishes a large pizza.

ADAM

This is incredible.

MAT

How many's that?

ADAM

I've lost count.

MAT

He's going for it, those fuckers aren't mediums.

The fat man inhales the last slice.

MAT (CONT'D)

Holy shit.

The waiter places another massive pizza in front of the fat man.

ADAM

No way.

MAT

How does this fat pig get two chicks at the same time?

ADAM

He has a sparkling personality.

MAT

Or he's got a massive--

ADAM

Wallet, probably.

Adam starts the engine.

MAT

Where are you going? We're gotta watch this shit.

ADAM

We'll pick it up tomorrow, he's been here all day, and I wanna go home.

MAT

Okay, but go to the store first.

ADAM

Fine.

MAT

It's a good job actually. If he ate another pizza, I'd fucking sleep with him.

ADAM

You've had worse.

Mat isn't impressed.

INT. STORE - DAY

Adam and Mat walk down a pharmaceutical aisle.

Mat studies a list, he carries a shopping basket containing some products.

ADAM

Shall we do something tonight?

MAT

I was going to have a quiet night. Watch some movies, have a night to myself. Hence the shit I'm buying. Why? What's up?

ADAM  
I don't wanna spend another night  
watching romantic comedies by  
myself.

MAT  
Those movies suck.

JANE, (25), an attractive blonde, enters the aisle.

Mat stops.

MAT (CONT'D)  
Holy Jesus, fuck me in the ass.  
Don't move.

He stops Adam from walking.

ADAM  
What's wrong?

Adam spots Jane.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
Mat, don't do it.

MAT  
I'm fucking doing it.

Mat breaths rapidly.

MAT (CONT'D)  
I'm doing it.

ADAM  
This is going to begin badly and  
end worse.

MAT  
I don't care. Hold this.

Adam takes the basket. Mat heads for Jane.

ADAM  
You're the man.

MAT  
I'm the man.

Jane studies products from the shelves. Adam watches on.

MAT (CONT'D)  
Sara, isn't it?

JANE  
No. Jane.

MAT

Jane, you don't want that stuff. I bought some last month, it gave me the worst case of diarrhea.

Mat laughs. Jane doesn't.

JANE

Excuse me?

MAT

This is really weird. I know you from some where. Do you come here often?

Adam's in disbelief. He turns around.

ADAM

Shit.

He freezes.

EMMA, (25), slim, red hair, very pretty. She scans the shelves and moves toward Adam.

Adam stares. She's only feet away.

Adam panics and grabs a box of tampons. He pretends to read the packaging.

He panics and grabs a box of tampons from the shelf, he reads the box.

Emma sees Adam.

EMMA

Adam?

He pretends not to recognise her.

ADAM

Yeah?

EMMA

It's me. Emma.

He pretends to think.

ADAM

Emma Lawrence?

EMMA

Yes.

ADAM

Wow. No way.

They have an unconvincing hug.

EMMA  
How's it going?

ADAM  
Great, Things are going great. I  
haven't seen you in about four  
years. Today actually.

Adam realizes he's being too forward.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
I think.

EMMA  
Yeah I just moved back.

ADAM  
Nice. What's your next move?

EMMA  
Well I've been offered an  
internship at the bank. So, I  
guess I'll have to do that.

She's underwhelmed.

ADAM  
Really? I never thought you'd end  
up in a bank.

EMMA  
Neither did I.

ADAM  
So things working out, great  
education, great boyfriend, great  
job--

EMMA  
Whoa, no. No boyfriend.

Adam holds back his excitement.

ADAM  
What? I heard you were in a  
serious relationship.

EMMA  
I was, but he turned out to be a  
bit of a jerk.

ADAM  
Why? What'd he do?

EMMA  
Long story short, he didn't want to  
commit.

ADAM  
Lengthen, just a little.

EMMA  
Okay. He was content living off his parents' income. He didn't want to lead his own life so he couldn't understand why I was trying to lead mine. So he ended it. Just like that. Four years.

Emma breaks eye contact.

ADAM  
Well he's an idiot. His loss.

EMMA  
Thank you.

ADAM  
So it's defiantly over?

EMMA  
Yeah. I'm pretty sure.

ADAM  
Good. I mean, good for you.

EMMA  
What about you? You must have a girlfriend by now.

ADAM  
No. No girlfriends.

EMMA  
So what's with the tampons?

ADAM  
What?

Adam realizes what he's holding.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
Oh shit. There not anything. Just wondered, er-- how they worked.

Emma laughs. Adam places the tampons back on the shelf.

She sees his basket, reaches in and grabs some KY-Jelly and Trojan Condoms.

EMMA  
Adam?

ADAM  
No, they're not mine. I wouldn't. I'd never--

EMMA  
So whose are they?

ADAM  
They're my partner's. He's a  
little acentric.

Emma's surprised.

EMMA  
Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't realize  
you were gay,

ADAM  
What? No. Fuck no. I'm not gay.  
Not that there's anything wrong  
with being a homosexual.

Emma smiles.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
They're my colleague's. He's back  
there.

They look at Mat. Jane slaps Mat across the face.

EMMA  
Yeah, I remember him. What do you  
guys do?

ADAM  
We--

EMMA  
You don't still do that private  
detective thing like when you were  
a kids, do you?

ADAM  
Fuck off.

Emma is taken back.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
No. Of course not. That was just  
a hobby.

EMMA  
So what do you do?

Adam panics.

ADAM  
Uh, well we work for.

He searches for an idea.

ADAM (CONT'D)

We get paid for what we do by...

A police officer walks past. Adam keeps looking.

A security guard stands in sight. Adam keeps looking.

A T-shirt hangs in sight. It reads: *Female Body Inspector*.

ADAM (CONT'D)

The FBI?

EMMA

You work for the FBI?

ADAM

Yes. Trainee detective, if you'd believe that.

EMMA

Doesn't it take like a number of years of education and experience to become a detective?

ADAM

Normally, yeah. But we helped them crack a big case and they offered us a head start in a special detectives' division.

Emma trusts Adam.

EMMA

I guess your hobby paid off.

ADAM

Yeah. Something like that.

EMMA

I'm glad you're doing well, Adam.

Emma checks her watch.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Oh shit. I've got to get going.

ADAM

Oh. It was good seeing you.

EMMA

You too. I'll see you around.

Emma heads out of the aisle.

ADAM

Hey, Emma.

She stops and turns to Adam.

EMMA

Yeah?

ADAM

What are you doing tonight?

EMMA

I'm going to Rocos with a few friends. You should go, it's pretty good there.

ADAM

Really? That's weird. I was going there tonight anyway.

EMMA

See you tonight then.

Emma smiles and walks out of the aisle.

ADAM

Tonight.

Adam sprints to Mat. The girl is gone.

Mat smiles. He reads a piece of paper.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Mat. Mat.

Adam reaches Mat. The paper has a cell number on it.

ADAM (CONT'D)

You got her number?

MAT

Sure.

ADAM

She slapped you in the face.

MAT

Yeah?

Adam's confused.

ADAM

Guess who I just fucking saw.

MAT

Batman?

ADAM

Emma, the girl of my fucking dreams, Lawrence.

MAT

What? No fucking way, that's awesome. Oh man I'm sorry. Did her boyfriend have a strong jaw?

ADAM

They broke up.

MAT

That's a shame.

ADAM

A real fucking shame.

INT. STORE - CHECKOUT - DAY

Mat unloads his basket at the checkout.

Adam's excited.

ADAM

She asked me to go to Rocos tonight. For drinks.

MAT

No she fucking didn't.

ADAM

Okay, she didn't actually say come to Rocos with me. But she's going there tonight.

MAT

Then go.

ADAM

I can't do this alone. I need you there, Mat.

MAT

I don't know. I've got a night planned.

The cashier, (45), overweight, scans painkillers and viagra.

ADAM

Please, I can't do this without you. Her friends will be there.

MAT

Then that's where we're going.

ADAM

And you'll walk me through your shit?

The cashier listens to their conversation. She scans trogon condoms and laxatives.

Mat catches the cashier listening.

MAT

I will treat your penis as if it were my own.

Mat smiles to the cashier.

ADAM

Yes. I love you so much.

Adam innocently smiles to the cashier.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DUSK

Adam and Mat walk to the car.

ADAM

This is it. I'm going to finally tell her how I feel.

MAT

The FBI. What the fuck were you thinking?

ADAM

I don't know, I panicked.

MAT

This will begin bad, and end a lot fucking worse.

They get in the car and pull away.

A black Sudan with blacked out windows follows them.

EXT. ROCOS - NIGHT

Adam and Mat arrive at Rocos, a lively bar/nightclub.

MAT

You ready for this?

ADAM

I'm just going to be polite, honest and finally tell her how feel. What about you?

MAT

I'm just here to have fun.

INT. ROCOS - NIGHT

The bar is packed with customers. The atmosphere is explosive. The MUSIC is turned up loud.

A large crowd dance on the dance floor. A few gather around the bar.

Adam and Mat are stunned.

There's plenty of pretty girls on the dance floor.

ADAM

Holy--

MAT

Shit. This is--

ADAM

Terrifying--

MAT

Exciting--

ADAM

Horrific--

MAT

Heaven.

Mat heads for the dancing girls. Adam pulls him back.

ADAM

Hey, keep a low profile this time.  
Don't forget our rule.

MAT

Will you calm your shit and shut  
the fuck up. I've got this.

Mat disappears into the dancing crowd. Adam goes to the bar.

#### **AT THE BAR**

The BARTENDER, (30), bald, body builder physique. Adam notions him to come over.

ADAM

Can I get a beer please?

The music is too loud for the bartender to hear.

BARTENDER

Can I help you, sir?

ADAM

One beer please. Thanks.

BARTENDER

The restroom is over there, sir.

ADAM

For fuck sake. One of those.

Adam points to the beers in the fridge.

The bartender's confused, he stares at Adam.

Adam's frustration grows.

ADAM (CONT'D)

A fucking beer you fucking steroid  
junkie dunce--

The music level drops.

The bartender's pissed.

BARTENDER

You wanna say that again?

ADAM

I'm so sorry. I couldn't-- those  
are nice pecs.

It's tense.

The bartender breaks his stare and steps away.

Adam breathes a sigh of relief and turns around.

Emma's standing right behind him. She's wearing some trendy  
jeans and a T-shirt. She looks very cute.

EMMA

Adam.

Adam jumps.

ADAM

Shit. Hey.

Emma laughs and hugs Adam.

Adam savors the moment.

EMMA

You made it.

ADAM

I did. I always come here on  
Saturdays so it's no big deal.

EMMA

But it's Friday.

ADAM  
Are you sure?

EMMA  
Pretty sure.

ADAM  
You look beautiful by the way.

EMMA  
No. Shut up.

ADAM  
You look very pretty, but also sexy. But not in a slutty way, no you look very intellectual meets sexy, sassy, but this is me making myself look an idiot.

Emma laughs.

EMMA  
Thank you, Adam.

ADAM  
Do you miss New York?

EMMA  
I miss the city, but it's nice coming home and seeing my family and old friends. How they've changed in the last four years. I lost contact with everybody.

ADAM  
Not just me then.

EMMA  
You never tried to contact me. I was waiting for you. I assumed you didn't want to talk to me.

ADAM  
What? Why wouldn't I?

EMMA  
I don't know. It wasn't easy leaving, you were--

Emma pauses and thinks for a second.

EMMA (CONT'D)  
My best friend.

ADAM  
Believe me, I can relate to losing somebody close.

EMMA

I'm not sure you do, I really liked you, Adam.

ADAM

I can.

EMMA

I didn't think you'd be happy about me leaving.

ADAM

Don't say that. You needed to go. You had to. But I'm glad you're back.

Emma smiles thankfully to Adam. They make prolonged eye contact.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Emma, I came here to tell you something.

EMMA

Go ahead.

Adam hesitates.

ADAM

I don't w--

The bartender shoves a bottle of beer between their faces.

BARTENDER (O.S.)

That will be six bucks.

INT. ROCOS TOILET - NIGHT

A man pees at the urinal.

Mat comes out of a cubical wearing only a T-shirt and his underwear.

He stands next to the man and pees.

The man glances at Mat.

MAT

Hey, man. Great night, huh?

The man panics and shoots his face back to the wall.

Mat finishes, washes his hands and opens the cubical door.

A half naked sexy girl pulls him in and SLAMS the door.

INT. ROCOS - NIGHT

Adam and Emma talk at the bar.

EMMA

How's working for the FBI?

Adam tries to brush off the question.

ADAM

I'm only a trainee, so it's not as good as it sounds. What about--

EMMA

No, it is. You're doing well for yourself. I mean, look at Patrick.

ADAM

Your boyfriend?

EMMA

Ex boyfriend. He hasn't tried for a real job since high school.

Adam chokes on his beer.

EMMA (CONT'D)

I asked him if this is what he really wants to do with his life.

ADAM

What'd he say?

EMMA

That we could live off his mom and dad's income.

ADAM

What a dick.

EMMA

It's a shame. I'm going to miss the mind blowing sex.

Adam's shocked. He doesn't know how to react.

EMMA (CONT'D)

I'm joking.

ADAM

Oh, ha-ha, funny.

EMMA

But he was a great lover.

Adam can't tell if Emma's joking or not.

ADAM  
I'm going to assume you're joking.

Emma gives Adam a cheeky smile.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
I really missed you, Emma.

EMMA  
I missed you, too.

ADAM  
So as I was saying, I lied--

Adam's interrupted by the crowd CHEERING.

Emma's distracted.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
Oh, come on.

The crowd gather around Mat who plays the "TIME CRISES 2" arcade machine.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
Shit.

Emma and Adam join the crowd. Adam steps up to the machine.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
What the fuck are you doing? Get down.

MAT  
I'm showing these assholes how to play this game.

ADAM  
Mat, everybody is watching.

MAT  
Exactly. Let them fucking watch. Here, take this.

Mat hands Adam the other gun and hits the two player button.

Adam stares at the gun, he's absorbed by it's aura.

He plays the game without looking. He shoots the enemies perfectly while talking to Mat.

ADAM  
Mat, this isn't the time. Stop. Before somebody recognizes us.

MAT  
Let's finish this stage, then we'll disappear.

Adam sighs and turns to the screen.

In unison Adam and Mat shoot every enemies on screen, perfectly.

MAT (CONT'D)

Top left.

Mat shoots an approaching enemy on the screen.

ADAM

Got it.

They clear the stage.

The crowd CHEER.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Right, come on--

An ANGRY MAN, (40), short, fat and far too sweaty. He shouts from the crowd.

ANGRY MAN

Hey, dip-shit.

ADAM

Shit.

Adam and Mat turn to the Angry man.

He points at Adam, with fury in his eyes.

ANGRY MAN

It's you. You're the fucking guy.

ADAM

No, it's not me. I'm not anybody.

ANGRY MAN

You're the petty amateur detective who ratted me out to my wife for sixty bucks.

MAT

Sixty-five.

Another MAN, (35), tall and round shouts from the crowd.

MAN

Yeah that is the guy. Just a few weeks ago. She took my dog because of you.

ADAM

Well, maybe you shouldn't have banged her sister.

Adam see's Emma in the crowd, she looks disappointed and hurt. She heads for the exit.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
Emma, wait.

The angry man sees Mat. Now he looks enraged.

ANGRY MAN  
And you're the piece of shit who  
was sleeping with her.

MAN  
And my fucking sister in law.

The men move through the crowd.

MAT  
Adam.

ADAM  
Emma.

MAT  
Adam.

ADAM  
Mat.

The man steps up to the machine, grabs Mat and puts him in a choke hold.

MAT  
Fucking do something.

Adam grabs the plastic gun and aims at the man.

MAT (CONT'D)  
What the fuck are you doing?

Adam realizes, he strikes the man across the face with it.

The man drops to the floor. Mat's impressed.

Adam's a little impressed with himself.

MAT (CONT'D)  
Alright, Adam. That's what I'm  
fucking talking about.

ADAM  
Right?

A chair SHATTERS on Mat's back.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
Mat.

A fist hits Adam in the face.

The whole bar turns into a mass brawl, the bartender gets involved.

Adam has lost Mat in the brawl.

Punches, bottles and everything not tied down is being thrown.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Mat? Mat?

Someone tackles Adam out of the crowd and onto the floor. It's Mat.

ADAM (CONT'D)

What the fuck?

MAT

Shit dude, I'm so sorry, I didn't see you.

ADAM

You jumped on me.

Mat gets off Adam.

MAT

Come on.

He helps Adam up and they run toward the exit.

Adam bumps into Emma. Mat keeps going.

ADAM

Emma.

EMMA

Why would you lie to me?

ADAM

I tried to tell you the truth.

EMMA

It isn't hard, Adam.

ADAM

Emma, please. I've got so much I need to say to you--

Emma starts walking past him.

ADAM (CONT'D)

I love you.

She stops.

ADAM (CONT'D)

I love you.

EMMA

How dare you?

Emma's eyes fill up, and she runs out.

Adam stares into space. He's distraught.

A bottle smashes on the wall right behind Adam's head, he leaves in a hurry.

GUNNER and REAR, (40), tall and bulky wear matching suits and sun glasses. They watch from a nearby table.

A drunk bystander standing between them.

RANDOM GUY

You two look ridiculous.

The man laughs.

Gunner and Rear look at each other.

Rear slams the Random guy's head onto the table, he falls to the floor.

INT. CAR - MORNING

Adam and Mat are parked outside the fat man's house.

They're beaten up and wearing the same clothes from last night.

Mat sleeps. Adam stares out the window.

A passing car wakes Mat.

MAT

What's this?

ADAM

Morning.

Mat's confused and in pain.

MAT

What the fuck happened?

Adam hands Mat a cheese burger.

ADAM

You did.

MAT

Did we sleep here all night?

ADAM

Half the people in Rocos know where we live, and the other half wanted us dead. I thought it would be best.

Mat takes a bite of the burger.

MAT

I like Rocos. We should go there every Saturday.

ADAM

It was Friday.

MAT

I made it with a girl.

ADAM

I'm happy for you. Oh, and thank you for destroying my chance with Emma.

MAT

What fucking chance?

ADAM

We had a moment last night. I felt it, and I know she did, too.

MAT

She didn't feel anything.

ADAM

She did.

MAT

No, I don't think so.

ADAM

I know she did.

MAT

Maybe.

ADAM

She fucking felt it.

MAT

If the moment was so magical, why didn't you tell her you love her?

ADAM

I was going to tell her about my job, and if she didn't hate me for it, I was going to.

MAT

Then why didn't you? It isn't hard.

ADAM

Because you got in a fight and she found out before I could fucking explain anything. And now she thinks I'm a fucking liar who just wanted to fuck her. I'm never getting another chance with her.

Mat puts his burger down.

MAT

Dude, it was my fault, and I'm sorry. We'll get you another shot with this bitch.

ADAM

Thanks for trying to be supportive. But it's still your fault.

MAT

Let's go home.

ADAM

Yeah.

Adam starts the engine.

MAT

Now the heat is off.

ADAM

Fuck off.

EXT. URBAN STREET - MORNING

Adam's car pulls out and heads down the street.

The black Sudan pulls out from behind a parked car and follows them.

INT. CAR - DAY - (TRAVELING)

Adam drives down a quiet road.

MAT

What's the plan?

ADAM

We go home, shower, change, we find out where Emma is and you help me find a way to confess my love. How's that for an execution?

Mat laughs.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Why are you laughing? If I can at least tell her how I feel.

MAT

Talking hypothetically, let's say you did have a moment with was her last night.

ADAM

It happened.

MAT

What makes you think she'll want to see with somebody like you? She's a ten, and you're pushing a four.

ADAM

No, she isn't superficial like the girls you spend your time with.

Adam sees something in the rearview mirror, he continues driving.

MAT

Hey, those bitches are not superficial. They're just misguided. Which makes them easy prey.

ADAM

Do you hear yourself sometimes?

MAT

That's my life's motto.

ADAM

And you're happy living your life this way?

MAT

How long have you known me? And have I ever been an emotional wreck like you are right now?

ADAM

No, but--

MAT

Because I don't get emotionally involved like you do. In and out. Repeatedly.

ADAM

When you have the realization of how shallow your life is, don't crawl to me.

Adam checks the rear view mirror and looks behind him.

MAT

I'm happy. I'm ecstatic right now.

ADAM

Mat.

MAT

You wanna know why? Watch this video.

Mat holds his cell phone up to Adam.

ADAM

Mat.

MAT

The Italian girl from a few cases back.

The video distracts Adam.

ADAM

You slept with her? She was fucking beautiful. Mat, fucking shut up. Look at that car behind us.

MAT

What? Why?

Mat looks in the mirrors.

MAT (CONT'D)

All I see is traffic.

ADAM

You wanna know what I see?

MAT

No, but the professional detective will no doubt tell me.

ADAM

I see a black Sudan that's been following us for the past half hour.

Mat checks the mirrors again.

MAT

Adam, it's a straight fucking road.

ADAM  
No. It's defiantly following us.

MAT  
You're getting too stressed, you  
need to loosen up.

ADAM  
Loosen up?

MAT  
This whole Emma thing's got you  
worked up.

Adam swerves round a sharp corner at speed.  
They're on a quiet road.

MAT (CONT'D)  
What the fuck was that?

The Sudan turns the corner.

ADAM  
See. I fucking told you.

MAT  
Okay. So somebody's following us.  
What do we do?

ADAM  
Don't ask me, I was hoping they'd  
keep going.

MAT  
Awesome. Now they know that we  
know they're fucking following us.

ADAM  
What difference does that make?

MAT  
You make one false move and you'll  
initiate a full on fucking car  
chase.

ADAM  
What should I do?

MAT  
I don't know. We usually do the  
following, we're not the followed.

ADAM  
Why don't I just drive to the  
nearest police station?

MAT  
That's actually a good idea. They  
never do that in the movies.

ADAM  
And it's only a few blocks over.

A small hole appears in the windshield.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
What was that?

MAT  
Was that you?

Another hole appears.

ADAM  
Is somebody throwing rocks at us?

They look behind. A man's arm fires a silenced pistol out  
the window of the Sudan.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
Holy shit. Are they shooting at us?

MAT  
Well he's not taking a fucking  
Polaroid.

The rear view mirror is shot off. Adam and Mat SCREAM.

MAT (CONT'D)  
What the fuck? Go, fucking go.

Adam floors it.

ADAM  
What do I do? Where do I go?

The black Sudan continues to fire on the car.

MAT  
I don't know. Do something.

He gently swerves the car left and right.

MAT (CONT'D)  
What the fuck are you doing?

ADAM  
I've never been fucking shot at  
before, okay?

Adam continues to speed. They continue to shoot.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
I'm going to die with Emma hating  
me, and it's all your fault. I  
love her, man.

MAT  
Oh just let them kill me.

The windshield SHATTERS, it's impossible to see through it.

ADAM  
I can't see. I can't fucking see.  
Mat, do something.

Mat grabs a T-shirt and wraps his hands.

He pushes against the windshield. His hands go through it.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
Mat, hurry.

Mat tries to remove his hands, they're stuck.

MAT  
Oh shit.

ADAM  
Get your hands out of the fucking  
windshield.

MAT  
I can't.

ADAM  
What do you mean you can't?

MAT  
They're stuck.

The black Sudan pulls up beside them and rams them off the  
road and into a small parking lot.

ADAM  
I can't see.

Adam slows the car.

MAT  
Don't slow down, speed up.

ADAM  
Where, Mat? It's a parking lot.

The stops perfectly in a parking space. The Sudan blocks  
them in.

MAT  
This is it. This is how we die.

Gunner and Rear walk to the car.

Rear stands on Adam's side and Gunner stands on Mat's.

Rear taps on the glass with his gun. Adam unwinds the window slightly.

ADAM

Hey.

REAR

All the way.

ADAM

Okay.

Adam fully unwinds the window.

REAR

Why were you running?

ADAM

You were shooting at us.

Gunner opens Mat's door. Mat still has his hands in the windshield.

MAT

How's it going?

GUNNER

Let me see your hands.

MAT

If you just step a few feet that way, you will.

Gunner and Rear look at each other.

REAR

Gunner.

GUNNER

Rear.

REAR

Does that sound like wise cracking to you?

GUNNER

Yes it does, Rear.

REAR

We don't like wise crackers do we, Gunner.

GUNNER

No we don't.

REAR  
We don't.

ADAM  
We're not cracking wise.

MAT  
Wait, wait, wait. Let me just  
clarify. Your name is Gunner?

ADAM  
And your name is Rear?

GUNNER  
That's correct.

REAR  
That's right.

MAT  
Gunner. Rear.

ADAM  
Those are your names?

Gunner and Rear share looks.

They strike Adam and Mat on the head with their guns,  
knocking them both out.

INT. SPA - DAY - (DREAM)

Mat wakes tied to a chair.

They're in a spa's treatment room.

Mat looks down and sees he has no hands, just bloody stumps.

He SCREAMS.

INT. SPA - DAY

Mat SCREAMS awake. He and Adam have a black sack over there  
heads.

Gunner and Rear stand behind them.

A circular curtain hides the center of the room.

ADAM  
Mat, what's happening?

MAT  
My hands. Shit, I can't see.

Rear slaps Mat across the head and removes the sack.

Gunner removes Adam's sack.

ADAM  
Are you okay?

Mat feels his hands.

MAT  
Yeah I'm good. Thank God.

A man's VOICE.

VOICE (O.S.)  
It's a little too early to be  
thanking almighty, my friend.

Adam and Mat are unsure of the source.

MAT  
Gunner, you say something?

VOICE (O.S.)  
It was me.

ADAM  
Rear?

VOICE (O.S.)  
No you idiot-- Ar fuck it.

The centre room curtain opens.

DALTON, the fat man they've been following lays in a mud bath.

ADAM  
You're--

DALTON  
Dalton Acknabonzhar.

ADAM  
Come again?

MAT  
Acne-boner?

DALTON  
Dalton Ack-na-bon-zhar. The z is  
silent.

Adam and Mat aren't sure.

DALTON (CONT'D)  
It's Ackna--

MAT  
Pizza guy. Let's just land on that.

ADAM

What it is this about? And who are you really?

DALTON

I'm the biggest narcotics distributor and money launderer on the east side of the west coast.

MAT

That doesn't make sense.

DALTON

It makes perfect sense.

ADAM

It can't be the east side of the west coast. You're either the west or the east.

DALTON

This is the east.

MAT

We're on the west coast.

ADAM

Yeah, if you said the west side of the east coast, then that would make sense-- Actually, isn't that the same thing?

MAT

If he would have said--

DALTON

Shut up. I am whoever the fuck I say I am, okay?

ADAM

Okay.

MAT

Okay.

Dalton climbs out of the mud bath, he finds it hard.

He wears some very tight speedos. The mud covers him from he neck down.

He grabs a towel and cleans away the mud. He stands in front of the boys.

DALTON (CONT'D)

Gunner. Rear.

Adam and Mat snigger.

DALTON (CONT'D)

Well done. You've done me well.  
Well done.

Dalton drops the dirty towel and uses a new one.

DALTON (CONT'D)

Now, boys--

MAT

Could you or one of the blues brothers please tell us what the fuck we're doing here?

DALTON

You two little punk rockers have been following me for the past week. I've been watching you watch me, watch you, but you didn't see me watching.

MAT

Where were ya there, Adam?

DALTON

Your looking for something. A promotion? A chance to kiss-ass your director?

ADAM

What?

DALTON

I'm sorry, but I just can't allow it. I've got too many big shits being taken right now.

MAT

What the fuck are you talking about?

Dalton smiles, he grabs another towel and puts one leg up on a chair.

Adam and Mat are disgusted.

DALTON

I'll admit, you came pretty close. I thought I had control over all of the investigations on-going in the city.

ADAM

We're not with the police--

DALTON

Ar. Ar. Ar. You've been following me all week, you've watched me work--

ADAM

We haven't seen anything.

MAT  
You were grazing.

DALTON  
Let's just cut to the cheese--

ADAM  
Chase.

DALTON  
Are you working for the FBI? KGB?  
MI6?

MAT  
Are you serious?

ADAM  
We do not work for the FBI, I can  
honestly say that.

MAT  
(To Adam)  
Wasn't hard, was it?

DALTON  
You better start talking.

ADAM  
We're private detectives. Your  
wife hired us. This is just one  
huge mix up. Check my pockets, I  
have proof.

Dalton notions for Rear to check.

Dalton cleans just above his waist.

MAT  
Can you stop that? I'm finding it  
strangely erotic.

Rear pulls out a wallet and from it a business card, and  
gives it to Dalton.

Dalton studies the card.

ADAM  
See. It's our business card.

DALTON  
This doesn't prove anything.

ADAM  
Do we look like federal agents?

DALTON  
So why have you been following me?

ADAM  
Your wife thinks you're having an  
affair. Of all things.

DALTON  
An affair?

ADAM  
Yes, and that's it, that's the  
truth.

Dalton LAUGHS. Gunner and Rear LAUGH with him.

Dalton stops, Gunner and Rear abruptly stop.

DALTON  
You're shitting me?

ADAM  
No.

DALTON  
She thinks I have another women.  
What is she crazy?

MAT  
That's what I said.

DALTON  
It's her who's been sleeping  
around.

Adam looks at Mat, who looks guilty.

DALTON (CONT'D)  
This is so fucking embarrassing.  
Gunner, rear, what the fuck? I'm  
sorry about those two.

Gunner and Rear lower their heads.

MAT  
Shame on you, Gunner.

ADAM  
Does this mean we're free to go?

DALTON  
Of course. And to think I had your  
pretty girlfriend kidnapped as  
leverage.

Mat is angry.

MAT  
What the fuck. You better not have  
hurt them.

DALTON  
Bring her in.

ONLY THERE TO DIE, (36), male, tall and thin, enters the room.

He wheels in a chair with Emma tied to it.

MAT  
Oh.

Adam is angry.

ADAM  
Emma.

DALTON  
It's okay, calm down.

Only there to die removes Emma's gag.

EMMA  
Get off me.

She sees Adam.

ADAM  
Untie her. Let her go.

DALTON  
There's no reason to get all worked up. Just a misunderstanding.

EMMA  
Adam, what have you got me into?

ADAM  
It's okay, Emma. There's just been a mix up. I'm going to get you out of this.

Only there to die talks to Dalton.

ONLY THERE TO DIE  
I've just got off the phone with the Petrelis, and the scheduled deal for tonight is go.

Dalton sighs, he notions to Gunner, who then hands him his gun.

ONLY THERE TO DIE (CONT'D)  
You'll need to deliver the money to the diner tonight. Oh and one more thing, the Xaviers are--

Dalton shoots only there to die in the head. He falls into the mud bath and sinks to the bottom.

MAT  
What the fuck?

ADAM  
Oh my--

EMMA  
God.

ADAM  
You killed him.

DALTON  
He's taking a dirt nap.

A quiet moment.

DALTON (CONT'D)  
That's funny.

MAT  
Yeah, his smile's pretty big on the  
fucking ceiling.

Dalton aims his gun at Mat. Mat laughs.

MAT (CONT'D)  
It's funny. It's so fucking funny.  
Ha-ha.

DALTON  
Well this is a shame. I really was  
going to let you three go.

MAT  
Was? You still are, right?

DALTON  
I'm sorry, it's too late. You know  
too much. This is a big deal for  
me and I can't have any fuck-ups.

ADAM  
But we don't know anything.

DALTON  
You know enough.

Dalton takes aim on Emma, she looks to Adam.

ADAM  
Point the gun at me, not her. You  
look at me.

GUNNER  
Sir. If I may make a suggestion.

DALTON  
Shoot, gunner.

MAT  
Choice of words.

Gunner whispers into Dalton's ear.

Dalton smiles and gives Gunner his gun.

ADAM  
Thank God.

DALTON  
Gunner may have just saved your  
sinful lives.

MAT  
Thanks Gunner, you're not all that  
bad.

Dalton puts on a robe.

EMMA  
Finally.

ADAM  
Why aren't you going to kill us?

MAT  
Will you shut the fuck up?

DALTON  
You know too much about the drop to  
let you go. So instead, you will  
make the drop.

ADAM  
You can't be serious.

MAT  
No way.

DALTON  
Or I kill your girl.

Dalton aims at Emma.

ADAM  
Okay. Okay.

EMMA  
I'm not his girl.

ADAM  
Emma, not the place.

EMMA

We've spoken twice in four years,  
and you lied to me.

ADAM

Emma, did you feel something last  
night? I have to know.

DALTON

Enough with the young love shit.  
Pick up the package from this  
address.

Dalton writes on a piece of paper.

DALTON (CONT'D)

And call this number when you have  
it. That's if you want to see this  
pretty piece alive again.

Dalton puts the paper in Adam pocket.

DALTON (CONT'D)

If I don't hear from you by dusk,  
or you attempt to go to the  
authorities, she's a dead man.

Dalton notions to Gunner and Rear.

MAT

You mean a dead women--

ADAM

Don't you hurt her--

Gunner and Rear knock Adam and Mat out simultaneously.

INT. CAR - DAY

Adam and Mat are unconscious in the car. Adam is in the  
driver's seat, Mat is in the passenger seat.

Adam awakes.

ADAM

Mat, wake up.

MAT

What?

Adam checks around, he puts the key in the ignition and takes  
a moment.

MAT (CONT'D)

Did that shit really just happen?

ADAM

Pretty sure.

MAT

Oh good.

ADAM

Mat, the pizza guy has Emma. Shit.

MAT

You wanna go to the movies?

ADAM

Mat, this is serious. He'll kill her if we don't do what he wants.

MAT

What did it he want?

ADAM

Shit.

Adam finds the piece of paper.

ADAM (CONT'D)

We're gotta pick up a package at this address.

MAT

Let's just go to the police.

ADAM

If he doesn't have people in the police, he defiantly has people following us. We've got to do this.

MAT

Okay then, so we take him on, me and you. Yeah, we can take him, fuck the police.

ADAM

What? There's no dealing with, no taking him on. We do what he wants and we get Emma back, that's the execution.

MAT

And you think he'll just hand her over when we're all done being his bitches?

ADAM

Yes.

Adam reverses.

MAT

Ain't you forgetting something?

Mat gestures to the shattered windshield.

ADAM  
For fuck sake.

Adam unbuckles his seat belt and gets out.

INT. CAR - DAY

Adam and Mat are parked on a suburban street. The car has no windshield.

They stare at the house.

It's a nice area, the grass is green. Children play in the gardens.

MAT  
Are you sure we're at the right place?

ADAM  
It's the address he gave me.

MAT  
A little too nice to be involved in this shit.

ADAM  
Yeah.

They stare intently.

A little girl, (7), BANGS on the window, inches from their faces. Adam and Mat both SCREAM.

The little girl LAUGHS and waves playfully.

They're both frozen with a look of terror on their face.

The girl happily runs away.

A moment passes.

MAT  
Fucking bitch.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Adam and Mat reach the door of the house.

ADAM  
It's your turn.

MAT  
I ain't knocking, it's your fucking girlfriend.

ADAM  
Such a child.

Adam nearly knocks on the door, he's stopped by a STRONG MANLY VOICE through a speaker above the door.

STRONG MANLY VOICE (O.S.)  
Stop. What do you want?

ADAM  
We've been sent by Dalton to pick up a package.

STRONG MANLY VOICE (O.S.)  
Dalton, who?

ADAM  
Shit. What was his name?

MAT  
Boner something? He's a heart attack waiting to happen.

STRONG MANLY VOICE (O.S.)  
You're not the usual suspects.

ADAM  
Plans were kind of changed at the last minute. Would you just let us in please?

STRONG MANLY VOICE (O.S.)  
What's the password?

MAT  
Open the fucking door.

STRONG MANLY VOICE (O.S.)  
Good enough.

Bolts UNLOCK on the inside.

The door swings open.

GREG, (22), thin, spotty, wears glasses greets them.

GREG  
Hey dudes. Follow me.

Greg sounds like a nerd. Adam and Mat are surprised.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Adam and Mat follow Greg into the living room.

It's full of computers, printers and heavy-duty machinery.

Two identical briefcases sit on a table, one full of fake cash and the other with a makeshift bomb.

GREG

Welcome.

ADAM

I'm Sorry, I didn't catch your name?

GREG

It's Greg.

MAT

That's it?

GREG

Yeah, and that over there is James.

JAMES, (22), just as nerdy as Greg. He works on machinery.

MAT

James and Greg--

GREG

No, no. Greg and James.

MAT

What sort of nerd-ass names are those for drug dealers.

GREG

Whoa, no, we're not dealers. No, we're the brains behind the ignorant brutes. Well, I guess that means you two.

ADAM

This wasn't really our career choice.

MAT

Yeah, fuck you, Greg.

ADAM

So if you're not dealers, what are you?

GREG

Let's say, a production company, if you will.

ADAM

A production company for what?

GREG

Bombs and counterfeit cash mainly,  
but we've only just been  
established. Plenty of room for  
growth. We're open to the city and  
its needs.

JAMES

The state.

GREG

He's right.

ADAM

There must be hundreds of you  
people.

GREG

Ar, well, we've got something the  
others don't.

MAT

Acne?

GREG

We've been working on a counterfeit  
product that is, well, it's better  
than the real thing.

MAT

Yeah, good luck with that. Where's  
the package?

Greg thinks.

GREG

Oh.

Adam jumps.

GREG (CONT'D)

You're jiving the good shit today.

ADAM

The good shit?

GREG

The good shit.

Greg leads them to the table and shows off the money  
briefcase.

GREG (CONT'D)  
This beautiful little gift right here.

MAT  
Holy fuck.

ADAM  
That's a lot of money.

GREG  
These babies are cleaner than the real thing. This is our first batch of the new brand it's worth a fuck-load of money, so be careful.

ADAM  
Money for money?

GREG  
Where the money is.

Adam sees the bomb.

ADAM  
And what the hell is that?

GREG  
It's a cake.

ADAM  
Do you have to keep them in matching cases?

GREG  
One blows shit up, the other buys a shit load of shit. It's simple. Once closed, the bomb arms, once opened, boom.

MAT  
Sweet, sounds like my sort of case.

Greg enters Mat's personnel space.

GREG  
You seem like a bit of a bad-ass.

MAT  
I try to be.

GREG  
You ever smoked the vermin?

MAT  
What?

GREG  
You cook any fools?

MAT  
Dude, get the fuck away from me.

Greg backs off.

ADAM  
So is this everything? Can we go  
now?

GREG  
You're good to go--

BANG on the door.

A man's VOICE on the speaker.

VOICE (O.S.)  
Greg, time to open up.

GREG  
Oh no.

Greg panics.

GREG (CONT'D)  
Oh shit.

James crams himself into a storage unit.

ADAM  
What's going on?

MAT  
Greg?

GREG  
It's the Xaviers.

VOICE (O.S.)  
Open the door, you creepy looking  
mother fucker.

ADAM  
Who the are the Xaviers?

Greg hides his papers.

GREG  
The Xavier group is this city's  
most notoriously dangerous gang.

ADAM  
What the hell do they want?

GREG  
Long story short, I sold them some  
chalk. Told them it was coke.

MAT  
So their beef is with you, we'll be  
totally fine.

BRANDON (O.S.)  
One.

GREG  
The Xaviers have a long history  
with Dalton, full of conflict.  
They won't be happy about you  
working for him.

MAT  
Fuck.

BRANDON (O.S.)  
Two.

ADAM  
Fuck.

GREG  
Hide. Go hide in the kitchen.

Adam and Mat panic, they open the nearest door and rush  
inside.

Greg moves toward the hallway.

GREG (CONT'D)  
I'm coming, bro. I'm coming.

INT. CLOSET - DAY

Adam and Mat are awkwardly squashed into a closet.

They whisper.

ADAM  
We're in a fucking closet.

MAT  
This is so exciting.

ADAM  
Exciting? We're hiding from  
fucking gang leaders in a fucking  
closet.

MAT  
Fuck yeah.

GREG (O.S.)

So, Brandon, what can I do for you?

Adam and Mat listen.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

BRANDON, (34), African American, muscular and strong. Three similar looking men stand with him.

BRANDON

Don't give me that bullshit. You know exactly why I'm here, you sold me talcum fucking powder.

GREG

I don't know what you're talking about.

BRANDON

Greg.

GREG

I just pass on what I get from my own dealer.

BRANDON

Don't fucking lie to me--

Brandon notices the two briefcases and stands by them.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

You got anything to tell me?

INT. CLOSET - CONTINUOUS

ADAM

That little nerd is going to rat on us.

Mat's in pain.

ADAM (CONT'D)

What the matter?

MAT

It's my legs, they've gone.

ADAM

Where they gone?

Mat slants to one side. Adam tries to grab him.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

GREG

No. I have no secrets.

Adam and Mat BURST out of the closet and sprawl onto the floor.

Brandon and his men draw firearms and take aim.

Adam and Mat put their hands up.

BRANDON

Who the fuck are you?

Brandon aims at Greg.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

No secrets?

GREG

They're on a job for Dalton. I had nothing to do with it.

BRANDON

Damn it.

He aims at Adam and Mat.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Get up.

ADAM

Er--

BRANDON

Stand the fuck up.

Adam jumps up. Mat tries to stand but falls.

MAT

I can't.

BRANDON

What's his problem?

ADAM

He can't feel his legs. I'm sorry.

Greg closes the money case. Brandon closes the bomb case.

BRANDON

So you're working for Dalton?

ADAM

Well, kinda.

BRANDON  
Where's the drop off?

ADAM  
We don't know yet, he said call him  
when we get the package. It's our  
first day.

BRANDON  
I will shoot you.

MAT  
It's something to do with the  
Petrelis. That's all we know.

BRANDON  
The Petrelis. Mother fucker.

Brandon holsters his weapon, so do his men.

Mat stands finding balancing hard.

BRANDON (CONT'D)  
Get your shit and get out.

Adam squeezes past Brandon and grabs the case with the money.

BRANDON (CONT'D)  
No no, it's the other one.

ADAM  
Oh, okay thanks.

Adam takes the case with the bomb and heads for the exit.

Mat limps with him.

MAT  
I have the worst case of pins and  
needles right now.

ADAM  
Shut up.

EXT. HOUSE - DUSK

Adam and Mat come out of the house and head for the car.

MAT  
What now?

INT. LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Brandon opens the case of money. Greg stands on the spot.

Adam's VOICE on the speaker.

ADAM (O.S.)  
Let's just get away from these  
crazy bastards and take this shit  
to the diner.

Brandon smiles.

GREG  
What are you going to do?

BRANDON  
The Xaviers are going to end the  
Petreli's reign, along side that  
fat son of a bitch.

Brandon LAUGHS.

James opens the cupboard door, peeps out, and goes back into  
hiding. Everybody saw it.

EXT. CAR - DUSK

Mat sits on the hood, and drinks a beer.

Adam hangs up his cell and sits beside him.

Mat hands him a beer.

ADAM  
Thanks.

MAT  
What's the story?

ADAM  
I told him about the Xaviers.

MAT  
And?

ADAM  
He was pissed, but he gave me an  
address. All we gotta do is make  
the change--

MAT  
Exchange.

ADAM  
And Emma will be safe, I'll get to  
tell her the truth, and we carry on  
with our shitty lives. How's that  
for an execution?

MAT  
Let's rock. This is going to begin  
bad--

ADAM  
And end a lot fucking worse.

INT. SPA - DUSK

Dalton wears a suit and tie.

Emma is tied to the chair.

Gunner and Rear stand in exactly the same place.

DALTON  
Gunner. Rear. I can't risk those,  
title sucking Xaviers messing with  
this deal. This will open a whole  
new branch of business for us.

GUNNER  
What do you suggest, sir?

DALTON  
We overlook the deal. But be  
discreet.

REAR  
Good plan, sir.

EMMA  
Could I get a glass of water?

Rear flips.

REAR  
Quiet bitch.

EXT. DINER - NIGHT

The diner sits in the middle of nowhere.

Adam and Mat pull up outside and step out of the car.

They wear smart clothes and sunglasses.

Mat carries the briefcase.

They reach the door.

ADAM  
You ready for this?

MAT  
Let's crack this case.

ADAM  
What?

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Adam and Mat enter the diner.

Customers eat and drink. The CHATTER tandem with the jukebox.

Adam and Mat walk past Dalton, who wears a football shirt. Several empty plates lay on his table.

They sit at a table against the window.

Gunner and Rear sit on the table next to Dalton. They wear black suits with a baseball cap.

Mat hides the briefcase under the table.

They take off their sunglasses.

ADAM

I can't see fucking anything.

AMY, (23), red hair, thin, attractive, wears a name tag.

AMY

May I take your order?

Adam doesn't look up.

ADAM

No thanks.

Mat stumbles over his words.

MAT

Er, yeah. Adam?

Adam looks up, he's momentarily stunned by Amy's beauty.

ADAM

Oh my God.

AMY

I'm sorry?

MAT

How are you? Amy.

AMY

I'm cool.

MAT

Cool.

AMY

And how are you?

MAT

Mat. My name's Mat.

AMY

Mat.

Amy is as attracted to Mat as he is to her.

AMY (CONT'D)

I haven't seen you here before.

MAT

I, er--

ADAM

It's our first time.

MAT

Yeah.

AMY

You should come more often. It's pretty exciting on Saturdays.

MAT

You should come here more often.

AMY

I work here.

Adam's surprised with Mat's nerves.

AMY (CONT'D)

So what can I get you both?

ADAM

Just some coffee, Amy. Thanks.

AMY

Okay, I'll be right back.

MAT

Okay.

Amy smiles to them both, but more so Mat.

MAT (CONT'D)

Holy fuck. Did you see how beautiful she was?

ADAM

I saw, very intimidating.

MAT

I couldn't think of what to say. I'm sweating. I think it's happening, my revelation.

ADAM

Oh God.

PETRELI, (40), skinny and tall, enters the diner. Along with his BODY GUARD, (45), trim, muscular, carries a briefcase.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Oh God.

Mat waves them down.

They sit at the table.

MAT

Evening.

Mat tries to put his sunglasses on but Adam knocks them out of his hands.

ADAM

Petreli, isn't it?

Petreli leans forward.

PETRELI

Keep the noise down.

MAT

It's pretty loud in here.

PETRELI

Did Dalton send you?

ADAM

He did.

PETRELI

You got my case?

MAT

Adam.

ADAM

What?

MAT

Get the fucking case.

Adam puts the case on the table.

Petreli places his case on the table and opens it. It's full of used bank notes.

Adam and Mat are shocked.

MAT (CONT'D)

Fuck me in the face.

Petrelis shuts the lid.

PETRELI  
Six million in used dollars, for  
the three million in supreme  
counterfeit. That was the deal.

MAT  
Six million dollars?

PETRELI  
Keep the fucking noise down.

#### **DALTON'S TABLE**

Dalton anxiously watches from afar. He motions for Gunner and Rear to ready their weapons, which they do.

#### **ADAM AND MAT'S TABLE**

Adam unlocks the case and slowly lifts the lid.

Adam sees the bomb through the gap and slams the lid.

MAT  
What is it?

PETRELI  
Open the case.

MAT  
What's going on?

PETRELI  
Open the case or I'll blow your  
fucking head off.

Adam stands and motions for Mat to leave.

#### **DALTON'S TABLE**

DALTON  
What in Lucifer's inferno are they  
doing--

He shoves a sausage in his mouth cutting off his speech.

#### **ADAM AND MAT'S TABLE**

Adam whispers into Mat's ear.

MAT  
Well, it was nice doing business  
with you gentlemen.

They stand and leave the table.

Petrelis and his Body Guard also stand. They hold pistols under their coats.

MAT (CONT'D)

Whoa.

PETRELI

Sit down.

ADAM

Look, just take your case and let us go.

Amy comes to the table, she holds a coffee pot.

AMY

I've got your coffee--

She sees the guns.

AMY (CONT'D)

Mat?

Brandon steps in, he holds a sub-machine gun.

BRANDON

Holster your guns.

Petrelis and his Body Guard holster their weapons.

BODY GUARD

What sort of deal is this?

PETRELI

And who the hell are you?

MAT

He's with the Xaviers.

PETRELI

Dalton set me up.

Brandon grabs the case with the real money inside.

Dalton stands, he holds a shotgun.

DALTON

Don't fucking move.

The whole diner stops.

BRANDON

Dalton?

PETRELI

Dalton?

MAT

Dalton?

ADAM

You guys didn't see him?

MAT

You didn't see him.

DALTON

What are you doing here, Brandon?  
I warned you what would happen.

BRANDON

You really want to do this here?

ADAM

No he doesn't. Don't do it.

MAT

Do it.

Dalton COCKS his shotgun--

One half of the diner's customers stand holding an array of firearms. They aim at Dalton.

BRANDON

You thought the rest of the Xaviers  
wouldn't back me up this time?

DALTON

No. I didn't underestimate their  
ignorance.

Brandon LAUGHS.

BRANDON

Let me guess, you've got the men in  
black here somewhere?

DALTON

They're all I need to flush you  
parasites.

Gunner and Rear stand and take aim, releasing Emma, she runs to Adam.

ADAM

Emma.

EMMA

Adam. Thank God.

They hug.

BRANDON  
You think you stand a chance with  
those fucking prats?

DALTON  
Of course.

PETRELI  
No, Dalton, you don't. And neither  
do the Xaviers.

Petrelis CLICKS his fingers.

The other half of the diner's customers stand, all holding  
firearms.

PETRELI (CONT'D)  
You didn't think I would do this  
alone, did you, Dalton?

Everybody stares at everybody, but nobody moves.

The Xaviers to the right, the Petrelis to the left, Dalton,  
Gunner and Rear in the middle.

BRANDON  
Who's going to make the first move?

Adam and Mat make eye contact.

Mat winks to Adam.

ADAM  
No, don't.

Mat knocks the pot of coffee out of Amy's hands.

The hot coffee lands in the Body Guard's groin. He SCREAMS  
in pain.

The three gangs erupts in GUNFIRE.

Adam, Emma, Mat and Amy run and hide behind the serving  
counter.

#### **BEHIND THE COUNTER**

They take cover behind the counter.

Gunfire rains within the diner.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
Why the fuck did you do that?

MAT  
They were going to shoot us. I  
saved us.

ADAM  
 Saved us, you're going to fucking  
 kill us.

MAT  
 You're the one who brought the  
 fucking bomb. Amy, are you okay?

AMY  
 Yeah, thanks to you.

Amy hold onto Mat. Mat' confused with the feelings he's  
 experiencing.

ADAM  
 Emma, I'm so fucking sorry for  
 getting you into this. And I'm  
 sorry for lying to you about--

EMMA  
 Adam, this isn't the time for an  
 explanation.

ADAM  
 No, you have to know the truth--

EMMA  
 Adam, I know, It's okay. I feel  
 the same way.

ADAM  
 You do?

EMMA  
 Emma kisses Adam.

They're interrupted by gunfire.

#### **DINER**

The Petrelis take cover to the right behind tables, chairs,  
 bins, anything they can. The same for the Xaviers on the  
 left.

Dalton, Gunner and Rear have retreated to the front of the  
 diner and take cover behind some tables.

Dalton eats french fries off the floor while he shoots.

Gunner and Rear shoot symmetrically, taking out a number of  
 gang members.

Petrelis shoots Rear in the chest, he falls to the floor.

GUNNER  
 No.

Gunner holds Rear, forgetting about the gunfire.

GUNNER (CONT'D)

You're okay.

Rear is dying.

REAR

Is it bad?

Gunner lifts his hand, blood erupts from under it.

GUNNER

It's not that bad.

Gunner tears up.

REAR

Gunner, look after Dalton for me.

GUNNER

Don't say that. You're going to be fine. Please.

REAR

I love you, brother.

GUNNER

Don't, don't, Rear, Rear, no. Please.

Rear dies in Gunner's arms.

GUNNER (CONT'D)

Rear? Rear?

Gunner cries for a second, he grabs Rear's gun.

He steps over the table and walks into the firing line, he heads for Petreli. Dalton watches in horror.

DALTON

What are you doing?

Gunner shoots both pistols killing numerous gang members.

He runs out of bullets and throws both guns at somebody's head, knocking them out.

Gunner manually takes down another gang member.

He chops somebody in the throat, they choke to death.

Petreli shoots Gunner twice before Gunner grabs him.

Gunner chokes Petreli to death. Petreli dies, Gunner falls to his knees and dies.

**BEHIND THE COUNTER**

Mat hands Adam a gun.

MAT

Here.

ADAM

What the fuck?

MAT

I figured we might need them.

ADAM

When?

MAT

Now.

ADAM

You had those this whole time, and you're giving it to me now?

MAT

Do you want the gun or not?

Adam takes the gun.

ADAM

We can't just shoot people.

Mat loads his pistol.

MAT

I don't know if you've noticed, Adam, but they're shooting at us.

ADAM

We're not killing anybody--

Bullet holes appear all around them through the counter.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Fuck this.

They stand.

**DINER**

Adam and Mat emerge from behind the counter.

The same as when they were playing "*Time Crises 2*", anybody who fires unto them, they incapacitate.

Somebody to the left lines up a shot.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Top left.

MAT

Got it.

Adam shoots the guy in the neck.

MAT (CONT'D)

Reload.

**BEHIND THE COUNTER**

They reload.

MAT (CONT'D)

Did you see that shit? We were awesome.

ADAM

Let's do it again.

A gang member sneaks around the side of the counter.

MAT

You ready?

ADAM

Yeah. You ready?

MAT

Yeah. Yeah.

ADAM

Yeah.

MAT

Yeah--

EMMA

Guys.

Emma takes the gun from Adam and shoots the gang member in the chest, he dies.

Adam and Mat are impressed.

MAT

That is so hot.

ADAM

That was pretty sexy.

The GUNFIRE draws quiet.

**DINER**

Adam, Mat, Emma and Amy come out from behind the counter.

Blood, weapons and bodies are everywhere.

AMY  
Jesus.

MAT  
Chris.

ADAM  
I think we should--

EMMA  
Go.

EXT. DINER - NIGHT

They walk to the car.

Amy and Mat hold each other a few yards behind Adam and Emma.

EMMA  
Adam--

ADAM  
Did you mean it?

They stop walking, they look into each others eyes.

INT. DINER - SAME TIME

A bloodied briefcase lays on the floor.

Dalton's wounded, he places his hand on the case, Brandon, also wounded places his hand on the case.

They flip a lock each.

EXT. DINER - SAME TIME

EMMA  
I've always lo---

The diner EXPLODES.

**DAWN**

Police squad cars surround the diner. Firefighters blast water onto the flames.

Adam and Mat are being interviewed by an FBI agent.

Amy and Emma lean against Adam's car.

AGENT  
And that's all you've got for me?

ADAM

Yes, sir.

MAT

That's everything.

AGENT

You boys did a good job. We've been trying to take down these three gangs for over ten years.

ADAM

We didn't really do anything--

MAT

Ass kicking, I think it's called.

AGENT

How would you like to be entered into our training programme? With an impressive head start of course.

Adam and Mat look at each other.

ADAM

No thanks. There's a lot of cheating assholes in this city.

MAT

In the state.

AGENT

Suit yourselves.

Adam and Mat rejoin the girls.

EMMA

So you don't want to work for the FBI?

ADAM

Do I need to?

Emma smiles and kisses Adam.

Mat is already kissing Amy, a little more passionately.

MAT

Who wants breakfast?

ADAM

You drive.

Adam and Emma get in the back and kiss. Mat and Amy get in the front. They drive away.

FADE OUT.