Current

by
Brian Ji
FADE IN:

EXT. RIVERBED - DAY
Clear water flows. A leaf is caught in its current as the water dictates its destination. Further, into who knows where. WILL and BRETT sit on the earth. Both are in their twenties but Will’s face is caved in, emaciated.

EXT. BANK ATM - DAY
Will looks over his shoulder as he enters his pin. Smoke rises from a cigarette revealing the sunglasses ROB wears.

WILL
You mind not blowing that shit in my face.

ROB
Since when did you care?

WILL
I quit remember?

Rob lifts up his sunglasses to see clearer.

ROB
Come on, you say your quitting every other day but both you and your subconscious know that your not going to quit.

WILL
Well it doesn’t help that your blowing cancer in my face all day. And for the record, this time it’s legit.

ROB
Fine, I’ll put it out. You get the money yet?

WILL
Yeah yeah, hold your horses.

Will grabs the money and flaunts it in the air. He produces a big smile.

WILL (CONT'D)
Time to get high.
INT. WILL’S APARTMENT – DAY

Light cascades through the blinds. Rob sets his jacket down as Will dumps a sack of cocaine on the coffee table. He draws out multiple as Rob rolls up a dollar bill. His eyes explode as he takes a line.

WILL
Whoa! That’s some good shit.

ROB
Hey, is it cool that were doing this? What if your brother comes home?

WILL
Fuck him. It’s as much my place as it is his.

ROB
Even though he pays the rent.

WILL
Ey, I do the dishes from time to time.

As Rob leans over to snort his line, BRETT walks in through the front door. He is in his mid twenties with a knob turned up in maturity level.

BRETT
Hello? Will, you home?

WILL
Oh shit.

ROB
I fucking told you man.

Brett walks over to find the snowy like powder on the coffee table.

BRETT
What the hell is this?

WILL
Nothing, a science project for school.

BRETT
You don’t even fucking go to school.
WILL
Sure I do, the project is to mix chemical fuck with chemical you.

BRETT
At this rate your going to have a fucking heart attack by the time your 25.

WILL
Good. That way I’ll die before I turn into you.

BRETT
When the fuck are you going to change? You’re not a teenager anymore.

WILL
Yeah yeah, if I wanted my ears yelled off I’d go live with mom and dad.

BRETT
And what the fuck is he doing here?

He gestures to Rob. Rob looks down.

WILL
What?
(In a British accent)
He’s me best mate.

BRETT
Well I’m going to see mom and dad. This shit better not be here by the time I’m back.

WILL
I couldn’t agree more. I’ll get right on it.

Will leans over and rails another line. Rob begins to laugh but quickly looks down again as Brett delivers a piercing scowl. Brett then proceeds through the front door.

WILL (CONT'D)
God damn. Toss me a smoke yeah?

ROB
Thought you said you quit.
WILL
I get a free brothers being a
douche card don't I?

EXT. RIVERBED - DAY - FLASHBACK

Hues red and orange converge in the sky as the sun sets.
With his hand full of rocks, Brett slowly hurls them into the
river. Will looks off into endless skies.

BRETT
You think if I threw enough rocks I
could change the waters current.

Will continues to look up, his face is locked as if he can’t
move it.

WILL
The river would still flow the way
nature intended it.

INT. WILL’S APARTMENT - NIGHT

In between lines, Will and Rob listen to music and play
guitar. From time to time, Will wraps an arm around Rob,
invoking a smile in Rob.

EXT. RIVERBED - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

WILL
The current is so strong that it
would take each lonely rock with
it.

INT. WILL’S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Will sits on the couch, his eyes are bloodshot as he stares
off into empty oblivion. Rob dances around him, zipping from
one side of the room to the other.

EXT. RIVERBED - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

BRETT
The only way to change it’s course.
(Beat)
Would be introduce one major
obstacle.
INT. WILL’S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Rob’s mouth begins to foam up as he drops to the floor. Will snaps out of his cocaine dream and rushes to his aid. He begins to perform CPR in hopes to pull down the life that has escaped Rob.

EXT. RIVERBED - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

WILL
One huge deflection, rather than a million tiny ones. Currents need to be shocked into change. It’s momentum, given only one option.

INT. HOSPITAL LOBBY - NIGHT

Will sits, alone. The rooms pulse beats rapidly but Will sits as if he had none.

INT. WILL’S APARTMENT - DAY

With no light, Will’s eyes still produce a shadow. He inches his way towards the couch. He finds Brett sitting there, his eyes fixates on Will. Will sits down on Rob’s jacket, he holds it with gentle attention.

BRETT
I am so sorry.

Will doesn’t conjure a sound.

BRETT (CONT’D)
You want to talk about it?

WILL
No, all I ever do is talk.

Will sits up and puts on Rob’s jacket. He heads for the door.

BRETT
Where you going?
EXT. - RIVERBED - DAY

The sun emits its life giving glow. Will stares off into the heavens, his eyes appear to be searching. For what, for whom? A cold breeze rushes by, recruiting leaves to follow.

Will rubs his hands and places them in the jacket pockets. His eyebrows flinch as he pulls out a baggy of cocaine. He shakes the bag and opens the bag.

He stares for an endless moment. The clear water becomes murky. White water flows. An empty baggy floats towards the ground.