

Feud

written by

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FADE IN:

INT. COPPERHEAD JACK OFFICE, DAY

1

LARGE man in a Black Suit and Tie, Cigar dangles from Crusty lips. DROPS three ice cubes into a glass of Whisky. COPPERHEAD JACK, Rich CEO of a Powerful Coal Mining Corporation, and a REAL asshole. SLINGS his feet up onto piles of dirty cash that lay across his desk. Taps his Glistening boots to Application Blues. A News Report is on the television.

NEWS REPORTER

A tragic ending to disaster than has shocked local citizens here in Coal Country. 45 men trapped deep underground fighting for their lives. For 7 days, whole world watched in terror and suspense as first responders tried to save these brave hard working men.

COPPERHEAD JACK puffs his cigar and turns his attention to the TV.

NEWS REPORTER (CONT'D)

The cause of the mining collapse is currently unknown. Though, early reports indicate human error.

COPPERHEAD JACK makes an asshole smirk... A loud knock on the door and in rush an out of breath nerdy looking guy holding a stack of documents, EUGENE.

EUGENE

Great News, Sir! The Corporation has been CLEARED of ALL negligence.

EUGENE SLAMS the stack of documents on the desk, and adjusts his glasses.

EUGENE (CONT'D)

The Project went off without a hitch, Sir! High Profit Margin, Very Cheap, and the Mayor has agreed to using City Funds to keep the others families quiet.

Copperhead Jack SPITS an ice cube into his glass and POINTS his cigar at the TV.

EUGENE (CONT'D)

Everything is going as planned.

COPPERHEAD JACK

Eugene, Did I ever tell you about how this Enterprise started?

EUGENE

Every Day, Sir!

COPPERHEAD JACK

Long time ago, Great, Great, Great Grandfather Cooperhead was fuedin with a Buccanon boy, and took a lump of coal to the side of the head. It must have knocked something loose, because he figured out how to turn Shit Rocks into Gold Bars.

EUGENE

Very Good, Sir.

COPPERHEAD JACK

The problem IS, because we done pulled all the Shit Rocks out these Mountians. There aint no more Shit Rocks..and....since the Election, Uncle Sams pockets are overflowing with money for Shutting Down these Shit Factories.

EUGENE

Sir, Profits are skyrocketing. We are projecting Global Coverage on a Massive Scale this year.

COPPERHEAD JACK

English...

EUGENE

The World is Covered in Mountains. That's a Whole Lotta Shit Rocks...Sir

COPPERHEAD JACK

What about Henry Buchanan?

EUGENE

Sir, despite Minor push back from the political roundtable. We were able to Accompany your request to Frame the Entire Incident on Mr. Buchanan.

COPPERHEAD JACK
Push back?

EUGENE
Only minimal. They are all
Terrrified of you, Sir.

COPPERHEAD JACK
Fan-Tastic. Did I ever tell you
about the history of Copperhead's
and the Buchanan's?

EUGENE
Almost, Every Day, Sir.

COPPERHEAD JACK
When my Great Great GrandFather was
just a little fella. One of those
Buchanan boys put SPIT...in his
orange juice.

EUGENE
(gasp)
Gross..Sir. That does NOT sound
Trivial - at all.

COPPERHEAD JACK
Damn Right

EUGENE
We included the Revenge plot in the
proposal, and found only a Minimal
Risk Factor.

COPPERHEAD JACK
Henry Buchanan's Daddy, the
Reverend, got close. Real Close.
Closer than any Buccanon
Generations. I Looked him right in
the Eyes.

EUGINE
Did he get SPIT in your eye?, Sir

COPPERHEAD JACK
His lips were Puckered.. like he
was about to Hawk a Bigg'n into my
Glass.

PICKS UP WHISKY GLASS

COPPERHEAD JACK (CONT'D)
So, I put a Bullet in his Hip...
Ran him out of town.

EUGENE

Ewe, Sir. And a Reverend at that.
That is so gross and disrespectful.
Job well done, Sir. Totally worth
keeping this war progressing
endlessly.

COPPERHEAD JACK

How about our little Dove, BUCKY?
Is he singing in Tune?

EUGENE

Yes Sir, He was a PERFECT
recommendation!...an Absolute
Idiot, we OWN him.

COPPERHEAD JACK

How Cheap?

EUGENE

(turns to the TV)
Real Cheap. Oh! Speak of the devil,
our star is about to make his
debut!

They turn their attention to the TV

Copperhead Jack turns the volume up

NEWS REPORTER INTERVIEWING SOLE SURVIVOR BUCKY. CROWDS
CHEERING.

NEWS REPORTER

(to Bucky)

What was in like during those final
moments of despair? Do you have
any heroic stories to tell?

BUCKY (Hillbilly) is covered in coal ash and visibly weak,
his 7 year old daughter LUNA clinching his leg. Bucky holds
Luna's shoulder and wipes the tears from his eyes because he
knows he is about to tell a Lie about a Good man.

BUCKY

(In Tears)

Henry Buchanon caved in
the mine! HE DID IT! HENRY
BUCHANAN CAVED IN THAT
MINE!!

GASPS FROM THE CROWD - 2

GASPS from the CROWD. -Copperhead Jack HEARD laughing his ass off...

7 YEARS LATER 3

INT. REVEREND BUCHANNONS CABIN, DAY 4

MARY BUCHANAN, 72 years old, sets the dinner table. A small T.V sits at foot of the table. IAN, 19 eats green beans with his fingers and watches the T.V, a News Report about the mine collapse that killed his Father when he was 13. COPPERHEAD JACK is being interviewed. A Cleaned up BUCKY, and Eugene stand by his side.

COPPERHEAD JACK
 (On Television, to crowd
 of cheering coal miners)
 I am happy to report, the Coal
 Mining industry is going strong.
 The good hard working folks in this
 Great state are getting Back. To.
 Work!

Mary slaps Ians hand out of the green beans bowl.

IAN
 Owl -ch!

MARY BUCHANAN
 Turn that garbage off Ian. We need
 to move on from that day. YOU need
 to FOCUS on your studies. NOW Run
 and get your Grand Pa.

IAN
 Copper dick Jack doesn't give a
 DAMN about the folks in this state.
 He put Grand Pa in a Wheelchair,
 and likely killed my Dad!, Your
 Son! How can we forget that!?

Mary distraught, looks at her husband REVEREND BUCHANAN in the other room. He sits at a desk in a small room lit with one light, writing a Novel. A GLASS CASE holding a SNAKE sits on the desk.

IAN (CONT'D)

Why does Grand Pa keep that snake on his desk?

MARY BUCHANAN

Ian, That snake is what your Grand Pa Fears the most.

IAN

But, why does he keep it on his desk...I mean.. I'm terrified of spiders but I don't have one tucked in my bed at night.

MARY BUCHANAN

Since the day COPPERHEAD Jack took his legs, he has been in that room. Writing his Novel. It reminds him to stay vigilant.

IAN

That doesn't make any sense.

MARY BUCHANAN

Whether it does or doesn't make sense. The same Fear that inspires your GrandPa, reminds me to Seek Safety and Security.

IAN

(staring at the snake on Grand Pa's desk)

It reminds me that I'm not prepared for my exam tomorrow. Which also, reminds me that I'm meeting Jeremy for study group, like. Now. I got to go.

IAN SNEAKS IN REVEREND BUCANNON'S ROOM AND PUTS THE SNAKE IN HIS BACKPACK, THEN EXITS

INT. PICK UP TRUCK, DAY

5

Ian and JEREMY DRIVE PICK UP TRUCK IN COUNTRY ROADS.

JEREMY

You know Ian, we have been coming back to this mine since we were kids.

IAN

I saw Bucky on the news today.
Don't you think it's funny that
after the accident, he got promoted
to third pickle head in command?

JEREMY

Dude, he was the only survivor in
the accident. The whole town
basically Worship him as a Hero.

IAN

I KNOW my dad didn't KILL all those
people.

JEREMY

How long have we been coming back
to this mine, looking for clues?

IAN

7 years, since the accident.

JEREMY

What have we found? Huh? We have
been coming here since we were
kids. I lost my dad too! Do you
ever think we are just wasting
time?

IAN

You don't have to come with me! I'm
not going to stop looking until I
learn the truth about what
happened. My dad DID NOT cave in
that mine. He knew something. I
remember

JEREMY

You don't know what YOU remember!,
Hell, I'm starting to question my
own memory from that day.

IAN

HE didn't do it

JEREMY

Maybe he hated working like a
slave, underground, for shitty pay!

IAN

Jake!, we grew up in the same
trailer park! We helped each
other...

(MORE)

IAN (CONT'D)
 you know damn well that he didn't
 do it.

JEREMY
 I don't KNOW that.

IAN
 Copperhead Jack...

JEREMY
 Oh give me a break man! Copperhead
 Jack this!, Copperhead Jack
 that!!..You Love him. you can't get
 him out of your head! He's got you
 wrapped up...

IAN SHOWS HIM THE SNAKE IN HIS BACKPACK

JEREMY (CONT'D)
 (startled)
 Holy Shit! Is that poisonous?

IAN
 Sure is..

JEREMY
 WHY. Do you have a poisonous snake
 in your backpack!

IAN
 At the end of the day, we both know
 why we come back here, but, we are
 not going to the mine today. We are
 taking a detour. We are stopping
 by Bucky's house.

JEREMY
 And the snake?

IAN
 I'm planning to sling it like a
 lasso around Bucky's neck and choke
 him. But..I will probably just
 throw it on him ..and run.

JEREMY
 If you do.... It's totally going on
 Instagram.

EXT. BUCKY'S FARM HOUSE

6

IAN AND JEREMY PARK TRUCK OUTSIDE OF BUCKY'S FARMHOUSE AND
 WALK TO THE DOOR. A DIRTY DRUNK MAN (Bucky) ANSWERS THE DOOR.

BUCKY
If you're Mormons, I ain't
interested in what your selling.

JACOB
Do we look like Mormons?

BUCKY
Nope...you look like Girl Scouts.
Reach in that purse of yours and
pull me out a box of cookies.

JEREMY
Yea Ian, reach in that backpack and
give the man some cookies.

IAN
Trust me, you don't want THESE
Cookies. We just came to talk.

BUCKY
Wise ass. Why would I wanna talk
to a couple shit stains like you
anyway?

IAN
My dad was Henr-----

JEREMY
(interrupts)
Listen Mr Bucky Sir, we just want
to ask a few questions about the
Mine that collapsed.

BUCKY
Look kids, Get the Fuck Off my
property, because I aint going to
call the sheriff. I'm going to
Put..some Foot...in some Ass.

DOOR SLAMS

IAN
Drunk bastard.

JEREMY
The sheriff should come arrest his
ass.

IAN
I'm going to knock again..

KNOCK KNOCK

BUCKY ANSWERS STUMBLING DRUNK WITH A BOTTLE OF WHISKEY AND A SHOOTGUN

BUCKY
I thought I done told you boys
to...Fuck Off!

IAN
Henry Buchanan was my Dad. I'm not
leaving until you talk to us about
what happened that day!

BUCKY
Henry Buchanan's boy huh? Come
here, Gorgeous. Let me tell you a
lil secret.

THEY LEAN IN

BUCKY (CONT'D)
A Dove covered in shit..sure the
hell looks like a Crow....

JEREMY
YOU are drunk as shit

IAN
What is that supposed to mean...

BUCKY
It means...

LEANING CLOSER

BUCKY (CONT'D)
FUCK....OFF

DOOR SLAMS

IAN
You Drunk Lyin Sellout Bitch!

JEREMY
Calm down, let's go man.

IAN
I'll be back for you, Fucky.

JEREMY
Let's BURN down his BARN.

IAN
NO...he might have Horses or
something. Let's BURN his HOUSE
down.

JACOB
I have GASOLINE in the truck.

IAN
Not worth it....let's go

JEREMY
Really? The Voice of REVENGE
suddenly becomes the Voice of
REASON? I'm PROUD of you.

IAN
I'm Honored. Lets go.

THE BOYS PASS A BARN ON WAY TO TRUCK
THEY HEAR A FEMALE VOICE...psssst...hey

IAN (CONT'D)
Did you hear that?

JEREMY
Hear what?

VOICE
Psssst..hey...

JEREMY
I heard that..

IAN
It's coming from the barn.

BOYS WALK TOWARD BARN

IAN (CONT'D)
Hey!...who's in there?

VOICE
Hey come here, in the Barn

BOYS ENTER THE BARN

IAN
Welp, No horses.

JEREMY
Hellloo!

NO RESPONSE

JEREMY (CONT'D)
 We almost Burned your house down...
 Mysterious Barn Creature.

GIRL JUMPS OUT

LUNA
 (wearing a mask)
 Boooo!

BOYS NOT SURPRISED

IAN
 What are you doing?

LUNA
 Scaring you!

IAN
 I mean..what are you doing..in the
 barn?

LUNA
 Oh, dad's drunk as shit. I saw
 your truck pull up.

JEREMY
 So, you were spying on us?

LUNA
 Yea, pretty much. I actually
 thought Dad was going to shot yall.
 Disappointing performance, on his
 part.

IAN
 We came to ask him questions about
 the mine collapse. Wait a minute..

IAN (CONT'D)
 I remember you... from the
 News..that day. Ummm..maybe you
 can help us..

LUNA
 I heard you talking with dad,
 Sherlock. You are Henry's boy. I
 only remember his name because Dad
 sold him out on live television.

JEREMY
 What do you mean?....sold him out?

LUNA

Oh..well... Copperhead Jack made him do it.

JEREMY

What do you mean...made him it?

LUNA

Which one of you idiots is supposed to be the smart one? How do you think we got out of the trailer park?

IAN

Do you have any proof?

LUNA

Come, let me show you..

LUNA PULLS OUT AN OLD CHEST FROM A PILE OF HAY BELLS

LUNA (CONT'D)

I found this a long time ago.

OPENS THE CHEST AND PULLS OUT A LETTER INKED IN BLOOD AND COAL ASH.

LETTER

Should this letter reach the outside. Let them know. Copperhead Jack sabotaged us. We are stuck, we can't breath. Let my family know I love them. Henry Buchanan

IAN, SHAKEN, PULLS THE LETTER FROM LUNA'S HAND AND RUNS...

IAN

Thanks

LUNA

Hey!

JEREMY

Get in the trunk Ian!

THE BOYS JUMP IN TRUCK AND DRIVE AWAY

JEREMY (CONT'D)

This letter is a either a blessing or a curse.

IAN

Copper Hea---

JEREMY

It proves Copperhead Jack did it.
We need to get this out to the town

IAN

I need to get it back to my
Grandpa.

SPEEDING THROUGH MOUNTAIN ROADS, ARRIVE AT IAN'S HOUSE, RUN
INTO GRAMPA BUCCANONS ROOM

INT: REVEREND BUCHANAN CABIN, NIGHT

IAN (CONT'D)

Grand dad! Look! This proves Dad is
innocent! This is the proof we need
to put Copperhead Jack behind bars!

REVEREND BUCHANAN

Boy, He is still Dead. By the
hands of Copperhead jack.

IAN

But.. we can take this piece of
evidence back to the police and put
this killer behind bars! We can put
an End to the War! The Buchanans
can Win!

REVEREND BUCHANAN

Boy, If this gets out. And
Copperhead Jack comes for you. Then
you ain't coming back..do you
understand?

IAN

If Cooperhead Jack comes for me,
then that just means I don't have
to find him,myself.

MARY BUCHANAN INTERRUPTS WITH A PIE, REVEREND BUCHANAN WHEELS
HIMSELF to the kitchen

JEREMY

Your pie is awesome, Miss Buchanan.

IAN

Get up JEREMY! We are leaving!

JEREMY

But..Pie...

IAN

Come on! we are taking this to the Sheriff!...No, fuck the Sheriff, we are taking this to the press.

MARY BUCCANON

Watch that mouth, Ian

JEREMY

(whispers to Ian)

It's already done, dude. I Tweeted it like hour ago. It's getting a shit ton of attention.

THERE IS A KNOCK AT THE DOOR. IAN ANSWERS

MAN

Mr Copperhead Jack would like to speak to the person responsible for this.

SHOWS TWITTER POST

IAN

I am responsible...

Ian looks in his backpack. See's the snake.

MARY BUCHANAN

(yelling from kitchen)

Who is at the door, Ian?

IAN

(yelling from door)

Just the Mormons, Grand Ma!

MARY BUCHANAN

Well, tell them to come on in. Cookies are hot and ready!

MAN

(to Ian)

We'd love some cookies kid.

IAN

I've got a whole bag full of cookies for Copperhead Jack.

MAN

Smart ass. Come with us kid..

THE TWO MEN DRAG IAN OUT TO THE CADILLAC

REVEREND BUCHANAN
(whispers to himself and
puckers his lips)

THE END