

FOLD

Bernard Mersier

© 2023 Bernard Mersier

Bernardmersier8913@gmail.com
313 454-8234

BLACK SCREEN:

The sounds of a male being viciously attacked along with his pleading is heard. "Trust...the perfect murderer."

~Bernard Mersier~

FADE IN:

VIDEO RECORDING

Night time. Dirt covers the deserted area.

The bloody twenty-one-year-old African American inching away is JAMES.

His fancy clothes are torn, and the dust is coating his long dreadlocks.

Around his neck is a thick platinum Cuban link chain with a diamond "JL" charm.

It's safe to say he's possibly a drug dealer or a wanna-be. Either which way, whatever he's done has landed him in serious pain.

Continuing crawling away, moaning, footsteps are heard drawing near.

The footsteps belong to DARREN who won't be seen. Darren places a foot hard on James' back making him plant his face in the dirt.

Turning his head to side, spitting out blood, James continues pleading for his life, hoping the sound of fear in his voice will get him out of this situation.

JAMES

Don't do this. You don't---

DARREN (O.S.)

Begging won't save your life. Stop acting like a bitch and take it like a man.

The sound of a gun being cocked is heard.

JAMES

I'll--I'll tell you---

Two bullets enter James' head ending his begging.

Created using Celtx

DARREN (O.S.)
I already know.

CUT TO:

NEWS REPORT ON TELEVISION

REPORTER

(Talking to camera)

A gruesome scene was discovered earlier in a community where murder is the furthest thing that comes to mind. The body of twenty-one-year-old James Lane was found beaten, naked and gunned down. Police officers are working hard on the case to find out who committed the heinous crime. Meanwhile, the people of the community are speechless, wondering who would murder a young man who had ambition, kept to himself and was an all around good person.

BLACK SCREEN:

TITLE CARD:

INT. THE CHURCH - MORNING

Somber has everyone wrapped in its cold grasp. Cries are heard from family and friends.

They're crying over the death of James, and what makes it harder is they witnessed the murder over the internet from the video being posted.

A beautiful layout is displayed around the closed casket. Sitting on the front pew are James' best friends TYRELL, JOSHUA, MATT and his cousin DAMEN.

Tyrell, Joshua and Damen are twenty-two and Matt is nineteen. Tyrell is wearing a black suit with some jewelry hanging from his neck and wrist.

Joshua is wearing a light brown suit. Damen is wearing a navy blue suit.

Matt is wearing a casual dark burgundy outfit. When you first lay eyes on Tyrell you would think he's a hardened criminal because of his stern face, tattoos, long dreadlocks and dark skin.

Joshua is the Latin playboy of the group. Flawless skin, long hair and dreamy brown eyes. Damen is brown skin and on the slender side.

Damen is what you would call "Your local Google" because he knows any and everything about the people in the hood and loves to gossip, no matter if it's facts or fiction.

Matt is a handsome Caucasian who knows he doesn't belong with this group.

Looking at Matt, you would get the image of an innocent schoolboy seeking friendship, and you would be right. The group lets Matt hang around because he comes from a wealthy family.

Tyrell, Joshua and Matt are doing their best staying strong since Damen is going through it staring at his cousin's closed casket.

DAMEN

(Sobbing, whispering)

This can't be real. That's not my cousin up there in a box. That's not my cousin, it can't be real.

TYRELL

(Whispering)

We're here for you, fam. You know the streets speak no lies when it comes to shit like this. We'll find them niggas and get 'em together.

JOSHUA

(Whispering)

Don't talk like that in the house of the Lord.

TYRELL

(Whispering)

The Lord already knows what we're about, so he'll either deal with us now or when we meet him. You need to focus on what's important, which is making sure fam is good and finding the niggas who did this.

MATT

(Whispering)

I'll ask around and try to find out

who posted the video so things can go quicker. It'll all work out, D.

JOSHUA

(Whispering to Matt)

When are you actually going to put some work in?

MATT

(Whispering to Joshua)

When you actually get some bruises on that so-called "pretty face."

JOSHUA

(Whispering)

We can take it outside after---

DAMEN

(Whispering, angry tone)

Both of you shut the fuck up. My cousin who was everybody in this clique best friend is lying in a fuckin' box, and y'all on some bullshit.

Joshua and Matt drop their heads.

JOSHUA

(Whispering)

I apologize, D.

MATT

(Whispering)

Yeah, my fault, D.

DAMEN

(Whispering)

Stop being fake with the weak ass apologies. Settle y'all shit when this is done, but don't do it now.

TYRELL

(Whispering)

You two need to get your shit together.

While the four continue talking, and cries from other people are heard, Darren, early forties, walks up to the pulpit. The distinguished man wearing a black suit has an easy going expression written on his face.

His demeanor makes you feel like no matter if the situation is bad now, everything will be okay in the end.

DARREN

Good morning, everybody. I know you good people are viewing this as a moment of mourning, but it's not. It's a moment to rejoice the homecoming of one of God's angel's he felt should come home, escaping the cruelty of what the world has to offer. I know everyone here wishes this young man was here with us now, enjoying his company that brought us joy. But keep faith in the Lord, knowing he'll make sure the person behind this gets what they deserve.

Applauds and amen are heard through the room.

DARREN (CONT'D)

I won't stand up here long because I know there's family and friends who would like to say some kind words about this young man, so let me say this. The Lord is the only being who can pass judgment and decide when it's our time to join him. A random person walking on this earth he created for us to live in harmony with has no right to pass that judgment. If your faith is strong in our Lord, and you know he walks beside you, know that vengeance shall be his, and he'll deliver the proper punishment to the person behind this crime so you can rest peacefully.

Applauds and amen are heard again as Darren steps down from the pulpit.

CUT TO:

EXT - THE CEMETERY - LATER

People are still mourning, walking away from the grave plot. Tyrell, Joshua, Damen and Matt are standing in silence looking down into the ground where the casket lies.

DAMEN

(Sobbing)

Rest in peace, J. You didn't deserve this. Lord knows you didn't deserve this.

MATT

He didn't.

JOSHUA

Who the fuck would do some shit like this?

TYRELL

Them hating ass niggas we got into with trying to claim the block.

JOSHUA

Them niggas don't have the heart to do some shit like this.

DAMEN

That's the problem. Underestimating niggas.

MATT

But why go after J? J wasn't even---

TYRELL

The same reason why they would go after you, if you weren't always around us, easy prey. J wasn't slangin' or none of that shit, but people knew he was with us.

Matt looks over at Tyrell confused.

MATT

Easy prey?

DAMEN

Don't start with the bullshit. What we need to do is find out who did this shit because we know the cops won't be in a rush to find out.

TYRELL

Facts.

JOSHUA

That's fucked up the way they did him.

And then they posted the video all over the internet.

DAMEN

(Scoffs)

It's nothing compared to how those niggas will get melted.

TYRELL

That's what I'm talking about. We need to get on that ASAP.

DAMEN

We will. Right now I need to be with my family, so I'll holla at y'all later.

Damen walks off. The three look on with sadness on their faces and rage in their hearts.

MATT

Man...I can't even imagine what he's going through.

JOSHUA

You should, you're his friend. He's going through the same shit we're going through.

MATT

I didn't mean it like that. I meant---

TYRELL

Just do what you said you're gonna do. I don't know if you're slow, but attempting to be sympathetic or whatever you call it ain't working.

MATT

Dog, why are you always---

JOSHUA

Let the shit go. Use that paper and find out who posted the video. That's all you need to do.

Matt turns looking at Joshua balling his fist.

MATT

I'm tired of you trying to boss me around like you're the shit.

Joshua stares him down with a slight smirk, nowhere near taking Matt's words seriously.

JOSHUA

And what the fuck are you gonna do?

Matt prepares to swing, and Tyrell jumps in between them.

TYRELL

What the fuck is going on?! We're supposed to be against other niggas, not each other! Whatever differences you have between each other, y'all need to squash that shit or stop fuckin' with each other. Simple!

Joshua nods his head in agreement.

JOSHUA

...You're right.

MATT

(Sighs)

...True.

TYRELL

Let's get the fuck outta here and wait until we hear from D. If you two motherfuckers can't get along, I suggest you find another way home.

Tyrell walks off. Joshua and Matt stare at each other in silence for a moment. Matt slowly extends his hand.

Joshua stares at the gesture for a second, and then he finally gives him a play.

JOSHUA

My fault. You're my boy. I shouldn't be coming on you like that.

MATT

It's all good. This bullshit got us trippin'.

JOSHUA

Right, right. Come on let's go before he tries to pull off without us.

MATT
(Laughs)
Right.

The two walk off.

EXT. DAMEN COUSIN HOUSE - NIGHT

Loud music is coming from the two family flat in the rough looking neighborhood.

Cars are parked on both sides of the street. Damen staggers out holding a cup, turning back around to talk to a person who isn't seen.

After a few minutes, the door closes, and then Damen staggers down the steps.

Walking down the street, he makes his way to the driver side door of his all-black jeep grand Cherokee with tinted windows.

He downs his cup and tosses it to the ground. As he pulls his keys out, placing the key in the door his phone goes off.

Opening the door, he gets in and gets comfortable before pulling his phone out.

Looking at the screen he becomes confused staring at the message.

INSERT PHONE SCREEN

Are you ready to fold? With confusion written on his face, he prepares to make a call and that's when somebody in the backseat reaches around him, placing a rag laced with chloroform around his mouth and nose with a tight grip.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. MATT BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The room is basic, but you can tell Matt loves technology by the various laptops placed around the room.

Matt is sitting at his desk hard at work trying to figure out who posted the video of James' death.

Getting no results, he sighs deep, taking a sip from the glass of water he has resting beside the laptop.

Placing the glass down, he prepares to stand up, and that's when a notification sound goes off alerting him of an email. Going to his email, he sits confused seeing something sent by an unknown sender with a video attachment.

He's hesitant at first, but he clicks on the message, opening it.

The message reads...

INSERT LAPTOP SCREEN

The video recorded in the beginning is playing. The message underneath it reads...

While you're busy trying to find out who posted the video, you should be asking yourself are you ready to fold? A cold chill runs down his spine.

He stands up and begins pacing back and forth, nervously. Pulling his phone out, he debates on making a call. Believing a call wouldn't get the response he wants, he puts his phone away and heads towards the bedroom door.

When he opens the door, he's greeted with a bat upside his head.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. JOSHUA LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The only source of light at the moment is coming from the lamp resting off in the corner, giving the cozy room a dim look.

Joshua is laid back on the couch wearing a wife beater and shorts, talking on the phone.

JOSHUA

Are you sure? I'm asking because I don't see how it's possible.

(Listens)

Well, that's something that has to get taken care of.

(Listens)

What do you mean there's nothing to take care of? Yes the fuck it is.

He sits up angry, keeping the phone to his ear.

JOSHUA (CONT'D)

We can do this shit my way or it can
take a completely fucked up route.

(Listens)

Who the fuck is gonna do something to
me?!

(Listens)

What the fuck you mean I'll find out?!

A brick comes crashing through the window. Joshua drops his phone, getting on the ground scared. Remaining on the floor, he looks around seeing the brick with a piece of paper wrapped around it.

He moves over to the brick, picks it up and removes the paper.

INSERT NOTE

Written in black marker it says FOLD Joshua balls the paper up enraged, making haste to the door opening it, going outside.

Coming down the steps of the house in the nice community, Joshua looks around to see who threw the brick.

He doesn't notice the person in all-black running up behind him with a bat until it's too late.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. DRUG SPOT - CONTINUOUS

Tyrell is sitting on the couch with a blunt hanging from his mouth wearing nothing but his pants.

On the table in front of him there's drugs, money, a glass and a bottle of liquor.

He picks up a handful of money and begins counting. Finished with counting the money, he places it down in a stack, takes a hard pull from the blunt, holds the smoke in for a second and then exhales slowly.

He places the blunt down on the table, and then picks up the bottle pouring a shot.

He downs the shot, and then picks up the blunt taking a pull. Pulling out his phone looking at the screen, he gets aggravated because he hasn't heard from Damen.

TYRELL

What the fuck is this nigga doing? I'm ready to kill these niggas and he on some bullshit.

The doorbell is heard. He taps his phone screen.

INSERT PHONE SCREEN

Standing on the rundown looking porch we see a strung out FIEND wearing tattered clothes, slightly shaking.

TYRELL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

What up?

FIEND

Unc needs you right now, nephew. Hook me up with at least four of 'em.

TYRELL (V.O.)

Hell no, nigga, you still in debt.

The Fiend pulls out some crinkled money smiling.

FIEND

Nah, nah, unc got that covered. To make it even sweeter for you, give me six. I'll keep coming all night if you give me what I need right now.

TYRELL (V.O.)

Man---

FIEND

Nephew, come on, now. This money is burning a hole in my pocket and I don't wanna spend it anywhere else.

TYRELL (V.O.)

(Sigh, annoyed)

Here I come.

FIEND

Good looking, nephew.

Tyrell reaches under the pillow beside him and pulls out a nine-millimeter.

Getting up from the couch, he makes his way to the front door.

Reaching the door, he looks out the peep hole and sees the Fiend still standing there smiling.

He places the gun behind his back and then unlocks the door. Before he can open the door it gets kicked in and the impact knocks him on the floor.

He tries to reach for his gun and a man in all-black rushes in hitting him in the face, knocking him out.

BLACK SCREEN:

Tyrell, Joshua, Damen and Matt are heard talking over each other, exchanging foul words because they're confused about where they are and why they can't see or move. The lights come on.

INT. INDUSTRIAL BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

The only thing inside of the brick room is a wood chipper up against the wall.

The room has an eerie feel because of the cobwebs along the walls, filthy water and trash covering the floor.

Tyrell, Joshua, Damen and Matt are stripped down to their boxers bound and handcuffed to pillars across from each other with potato sacks on their heads.

The chatter is still heard, but it's lowered. Darren comes into the room wearing a white T-shirt, jeans and black leather gloves.

He walks to the middle of the room and pauses looking at the four.

DARREN

"How do you punish a person who swears up and down they don't give a fuck about nothing?"

TYRELL

What the fuck?

JOSHUA

Who is that?

DARREN

Who I am is the million dollar question. I'm so happy you gentlemen could make it. Although I know the way

you were brought here was probably unpleasant, but hey, shit happens, right?

He walks over to Joshua first. He stands in front of him smiling as he takes the potato sack off his head.

Joshua shakes his head, adjusting to the light.

DARREN (CONT'D)

The playboy of the group. You and I could've possibly related to that lifestyle, but unlike you, I'm not fake.

Joshua begins talking trash as Darren laughs, moving down to Matt removing his potato sack.

Matt reacts the same as Joshua when his sack is removed.

DARREN (CONT'D)

The money man. How can a person like myself not love you? Oh, I know. I use my money to do real shit.

Matt remains silent with a look of fear on his face. Joshua continues talking trash as Darren moves over to Damen removing his potato sack.

As soon as his vision is cleared, he stares at Darren with trembling lips.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Look at the man who knows everything about everybody. Your crew is lucky to have a man like you around.

Damen remains silent with a look of fear. Joshua is still heard talking trash as Darren moves down to Tyrell and removes his sack.

Tyrell has a tight mean mug, staring at Darren with pure hatred, wishing he was free so they could fight.

DARREN (CONT'D)

And last but not least, my favorite, the tough guy. The killer. If I was to set you free right now, you'd try to kill me wouldn't you?

TYRELL

You know I would. That's why you got me tied up. You're not stupid.

DARREN

Oh, I'm something that's beyond stupid. But, you'll find that out soon enough.

JOSHUA

Hold up. You're the preacher? What the fuck are you doing here, and why are we tied up?

DARREN

Because I love staring into the eyes of my victims at their most vulnerable point. It gives me a rush. But...the reason why all of you are here is something y'all need to figure out.

It goes silent. Darren steps in the middle of the room, looking over the four captives.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Let's make this quick because I have important shit to do.

He goes in his pocket and pulls out James' chain, dropping it on the floor.

The four are silent, staring at Darren shocked.

DARREN (CONT'D)

It's because of y'all his life was ended by my hands.

DAMEN

How the fuck is it our fault you killed my cousin?

Darren looks at Damen.

DARREN

The truth can go a long way. That's something y'all need to express before it goes further than this conversation that's about to end in the next three minutes.

TYRELL

What happens in the next three minutes?

Darren turns his attention to Tyrell.

DARREN

That lets me know you won't tell the truth. But...within the next three minutes. If none of you can tell me why you're here and who I am, the shit can get real bad. Does anybody else wanna respond like Tyrell?

JOSHUA

And what makes you so special that we should know who you are?

DARREN

Cocky attitude, I love it. That shows me you have no fear of what can possibly happen. As this progresses, I hope you keep that same energy.

TYRELL

Fuck all of the games and riddles! Be real and speak on what this shit is about! We don't know or give a fuck about who you are.

DARREN

(Laughs)

Words from a killer truly makes me cringe. Of course I'm speaking about myself, but your words gave me a brief laugh. You don't have a real bone in your fraud ass body, but that's neither here nor there.

DAMEN

You want us to admit something we don't know, and if we don't give you an answer, you'll end up killing us? You're full of shit. Why not just say you're a sick fuck that killed my cousin for no reason, and now you're gonna kill us.

DARREN

For a man who knows everything about you and everybody, you should know why

you're in this predicament. Then again, you gotta keep up that crew love appearance, right?

MATT

Can you at least tell us what we're supposed to tell the truth about?

DARREN

(Sighs, shakes his head)
Loyal friends to the end, I like that. But Matt since you asked, I'll start with you.

Darren walks over to Matt, while reaching in his pocket. Matt looks nervous as Darren steps up in his face. Darren pulls out a quarter and begins toying with it.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Pick a side. Heads you'll get it. Tails, Josh will get it.

MATT

Huh?

Darren flips the coin. The coin lands on the ground, and just as Matt prepares to look at it, Darren grabs him by the face.

DARREN

Don't look at it.

Darren looks down.

DARREN POV

The coin landed on tails. Darren looks at Matt smiling.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Lucky you. It's unfortunate for Josh.

JOSHUA

What the fuck?! Hold on, what the fuck do you mean unfortunate for me.

Darren walks off towards the door.

JOSHUA (CONT'D)

You hear me, goddamn it! What the fuck do you mean unfortunate for me?!

DARREN

The downfall of most men is pussy. We as men know some pussy is off limits. Somewhere along the line you lost that meaning.

Darren walks out the room. Everyone focuses their attention on Joshua.

TYRELL

Are we in this shit because of you?

JOSHUA

Really? You're putting this shit on me?

DAMEN

It's obvious you did something. You probably fucked his bitch and was bragging about it like you'd usually do.

JOSHUA

Fuck you, and fuck him!!! Yo pussy ass agreeing because you're scared!

TYRELL

Josh, you're good for doing dumb shit like that.

JOSHUA

Just like that, you're agreeing? Why the fuck do we look at you as the leader? You're a spineless bitch just like that weird ass preacher. Man, fuck---

MATT

If he's indicating you as a key piece, why not admit what you're hiding?

JOSHUA

The softest nigga in the pack decides to speak? I'm sorry, I shouldn't even call you a nigga because you'll never be black.

TYRELL

You're not even black, so how---

The door comes open, and Darren comes back into the room. He

walks to the center of the room, and everyone goes silent staring at him.

DARREN

So, josh. Do you care to tell the fellas the reason why everybody is here?

JOSHUA

How the fuck would I know?

DARREN

Right. Well, let's get on with the show.

JOSHUA

Show? What show?

DARREN

Fuck these bitches. That's your motto, right, Josh?

JOSHUA

That's every man's motto. Where are you going with this?

DARREN

(Laughs)

So, Tyrell, your sister is a bitch.

TYRELL

What does my sister have to do with this?

DARREN

A two month pregnancy Josh wants to get aborted, but she wants to keep it, despite she's only fifteen. Maybe it's because of the life this crew pretends to live she feels the child will be straight for life.

Tyrell eyes widen, looking at Joshua.

TYRELL

What the fuck is he talking about?

Joshua sighs, lowering his head.

TYRELL (CONT'D)

Speak the fuck up!

JOSHUA
...Just--just hear me out.

TYRELL
Hear you out?! You fucked my little
sister?!

JOSHUA
T, it's not---

DARREN
Tyrell, you have ten seconds to decide
the life of your friend.

TYRELL
What?

DARREN
Do you need some incentive?

Darren walks out the room.

TYRELL
You fucked my sister, huh? Yo greasy
ass stay smiling in my face everyday,
and behind my back, you were dicking
my little sister. That's what real
niggas do, huh?

JOSHUA
...It was a drunk night. You were passed
out, and she started talking about the
issues she has with you, and---

TYRELL
That made you think you should fuck my
sister?!

JOSHUA
I---

The door comes open and slowly pushed in tied down and gagged
on a morgue slab is TYRELL SISTER.

At the foot of the slab there's a circular buzzsaw and a
black duffle bag.

Her muffled screams and look of fear is terrifying.

TYRELL
No, no, no! Leave her the fuck alone!

She's innocent goddamn it!

Darren moves the slab up against the wall, not too far from the chipper.

Caressing her face in a loving manner, her muffled screams become a little bit louder as Darren turns looking at Tyrell.

DARREN

She fucked your friend and decided to keep his baby. Can you honestly say she's innocent?

(Laughs)

Besides, I gave Matt a coin flip and this is how it turned out. Consequences of life when you don't give a fuck, right?

MATT

(Trembling tone)

Jesus help us, Jesus help us.

DARREN

Matt, please, don't use religion. Whoever your God is, the only thing it can do at this moment is watch and wait to tell you where you'll spend eternity.

Darren turns looking at Damen.

DARREN (CONT'D)

What do you think, D? I know you already lost a cousin and you think your suffering is done, but it's not. I'm just curious to know what you think about this situation that you can possibly prevent?

DAMEN

There's nothing I can do to stop this.

DARREN

(Sighs)

Okie dokie.

Darren walks down to the buzzsaw and picks it up, turning it on.

Tyrell begins yelling, talking trash in hopes it'll stop Darren from harming his sister.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Did you know when you amputate a limb from a person, of course they'll bleed out, but once the initial pain is done, they'll go into shock, no longer feeling the pain? Well...at least that's what they say. I never gave my victims that much time to let it register in my mind.

Her muffled screams become louder as Tyrell talks trash. Without hesitation, Darren places the saw on her thigh, beginning the dismemberment.

Tyrell releases a blood curdling scream. Damen lowers his head, sobbing.

Joshua does the same and Matt turns his head to the side vomiting, breathing heavily.

Covered in blood, holding a straight face, Darren turns the saw off, placing it down on the slab and then looks at Tyrell.

Seeing the pain Tyrell is going through, he reaches into the bag and pulls out a fifth of alcohol.

Opening the bottle, he pours the liquor on her stub, while looking at Tyrell.

Her screams send chills up their spines. The four sob heavily.

Placing the top back on the bottle, he places it down on the slab, and then looks back at Tyrell.

Low agonizing, drifting off to sleep sobs are coming from Tyrell's sister.

Darren looks at Tyrell's sister and then Tyrell.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Hmm.

Darren walks over to Tyrell. Tyrell is trying not to look at his sister, doing his best to keep his head lowered, crying softly.

DARREN (CONT'D)

I don't believe this shit. I know goddamn well, I don't see the killer

crying.

Tyrell looks up at him with tears running down his face.

TYRELL

Fuck you.

DARREN

Well, at least you didn't say the typical shit, "When I get outta here I'll fucking kill you." You don't know how much I hate hearing that bullshit.

MATT

(Sobbing)

Who--who are you?

DARREN

Matt my boy, that's something y'all need to tell me.

MATT

(Sobbing, angry tone)

I have no fucking idea who you are!

DARREN

And that's why with some good words and money, Joshua's brother went to jail, while you sat at home clean as a whistle.

Joshua looks over at Matt confused.

JOSHUA

You snitched?

MATT

I didn't snitch.

JOSHUA

Then what the fuck is he talking about?

MATT

All I did was---

DARREN

You did what any person would do who couldn't handle the penalty they were facing. There's nothing wrong with that. Self-preservation, right?

MATT

Josh, listen. It didn't go down---

JOSHUA

Fuck you! You know what, I'll kill him myself. You don't even have to ask me or go through that flipping a coin shit.

MATT

What?!

DARREN

This is a hell of a friendship. Unfortunately Josh, that's not an option for you at the moment. Right now, Josh, you can decide if I should remove another one of your baby mama limbs, or make Matt spread the wealth.

JOSHUA

Hasn't she suffered enough?

Darren sighs, walking back over to the slab, picking up the buzzsaw.

TYRELL

No! No, goddamn it, leave her alone!

Darren starts up the saw and proceeds to remove her other leg.

Her screams along with Tyrell and Joshua's fill the room. Damen closes his eyes, shaking his head.

Matt turns his head to the side and vomits again. Turning the saw off, placing it down, Darren picks up the bottle opening it, pouring some liquor on the other stub. She releases a loud scream.

Putting the bottle down, he focuses his attention on Tyrell with crocodile tears falling from his eyes.

DARREN

For some reason none of you can simply answer a question, knowing what you're thinking is how you feel. Maybe it's because the four of you have been pretending for so long, it's hard being real when the shit counts. Because of that, she had to lose

another limb.

TYRELL
(Sobbing)
Go to hell.

DARREN
(Laughs)
I would cut something else off, but I don't want her to die just yet. Instead, I'll leave for a minute so y'all can figure out why you're here and who I am.
(Laughs)
The beauty of having a crew and being the leader is knowing you'll do your own dirt. That's what makes your crew respect you. Even if they're shady, they know what you'll do if they fuck you over.

Darren walks out the room.

TYRELL SISTER
(Groggy, in and out tone)
Ty...ty, hel--help...me.

TYRELL
Hang in there baby girl. Everything is gonna be alright, just hang in there.

DAMEN
What the fuck did we do to deserve this?

MATT
That's what he wants us to figure out.

JOSHUA
Well, we know one of us is a snitch.

MATT
Says the guy who fucked his friend underage sister. Fucking pervert.

TYRELL
Leave my sister out of y'all bullshit. Look at her. The shit he did won't get brushed off easily, but right now..
(Deep sigh)
My fuckin' sister is missing her legs,

slowly dying. Figuring out what he wants is all that matters at this moment.

DAMEN

She definitely shouldn't be going---

TYRELL

D, give that shit a rest. How about everybody trying to focus on answering his questions before anybody else gets hurt?

TYRELL SISTER

Don't let me...die, Ty.

TYRELL

You're not gonna die. I won't let you die. I won't let you die.

Darren comes back into the room, walking over to the slab, smiling, looking at Tyrell's sister slowly dying. He laughs, and then looks at Tyrell.

DARREN

Look at this. She must really love you to try and stay awake and communicate.

(Laughs)

Has she said something to the baby daddy?

TYRELL

You're fucking dead! You think you're funny?! Come untie me and take the cuffs off! Let's see how funny you are then!

DARREN

Where's the fun in that?

TYRELL

Come do it and find out.

DARREN

(Crazy chuckle)

I'm sure a soft ass character like yourself and your little friends can't comprehend how easy it is to kill somebody. Shit, after so long it becomes addicting when you don't get caught. But as I said, that's easy.

Now, what's fun? Fun is watching and hearing your victim suffer before you kill 'em.

DAMEN

What?

DARREN

Are you confused?

DAMEN

That doesn't make sense.

DARREN

Because none of you are killers. You guys are the type of people who try to do real shit, and if it doesn't fall through, you're quick to call God and all that bullshit. That's another topic I'll discuss. But...

(Laughs)

What I said makes perfect sense. It goes back to what I said when I entered the room. "How do you punish a person who swears up and down they don't give a fuck about nothing?" You take away the people they love.

MATT

That's a cowardly move. Who does that?

DARREN

Who kills a person's loved one and then brags, or acts as if it wasn't shit, carrying on with life without a consequence? If you can take a loved one from someone, then you should accept it when it happens to your loved ones. Murder comes with a responsibility most can't handle. The responsibility is knowing it'll eventually come back around, and if you try hiding, the people you love will pay for it. Why? Because even if you're hiding out, people run their mouths having no idea who they're running their mouth to.

(Laughs)

And if your people help you hide out knowing what you did, that increases the thrill to kill them because they

ain't shit.

JOSHUA

Wait a minute. So, this is happening because---

DARREN

You and everybody else in here has a few seconds to think about that.

Darren walks towards the door.

TYRELL

I don't give a fuck about your sayings or the dumbass reason why we're here. I do know if you let me free I'll fuckin' kill you myself. Darren stops, but doesn't turn around.

DARREN

When I set you free Ty, you still wouldn't have the heart to kill me when this is said and done.

Darren walks out.

JOSHUA

Aight, I think I got it.

TYRELL

My sister is dying with no legs and now you're talking about you got it?

JOSHUA

I feel the same way you feel right now. She has a special place in my heart, too.

TYRELL

That's what every nigga says about a female once they get the pussy. Don't run that bullshit on me.

JOSHUA

Are you fuckin' serious right now?!

TYRELL

You goddamn right, I'm serious! I believe since you did that ho shit and kept it a secret is the reason why we're in this. And that ho ass snitch

over there has something to do with it, too!

DAMEN

It's all fucked up, but why not hear what he has to say? That might help us get out of this.

TYRELL

Why do you care? You watched your cousin die live. I literally watched my sister get dismembered, and left to die.

DAMEN

How the fuck can you compare two equally fucked up situations as if yours is better?

TYRELL

Because I can.

DAMEN

Fuck you, Ty.

TYRELL

Fuck you!

MATT

Everybody relax! We're all fucked at the moment.

TYRELL

Easy for you to say, snitch. You haven't lost shit.

MATT

I lost a real friend! Don't you ever...

Darren comes back and walks over to the wood chipper turning it on.

DARREN

This is amazing. All of the bitching I heard, only one person had an idea of helping y'all get out of this, but it went left. I understand. He did some foul shit, so why listen to him?

MATT

You got all of this dirt on us, and we

don't know anything about you. How about you tell us what we did so we can admit to it and end this?

DARREN

(Laughs)

That's the funniest shit I heard all day. Tell you how y'all fucked up so you can admit, and I'll let you go.

(Laughs)

If the lies I exposed were never going to be told, why would I believe what you tell me if I told you why y'all here?

MATT

Because as far as we know, we've done nothing wrong except to each other. We don't know you, so how could we have done anything towards you?

DARREN

Spoken like a true victim. Which goes to my point about the difference between "murderers and killers." A murderer kills random people because they're scared to kill the person or people who fucked them over. They hope they'll get caught for a few seconds of fame because they know the only punishment they'll receive is jail. Even with a death penalty, they'll still enjoy their kills while bragging. A killer...

(Sucks teeth)

A killer gets rid of the person or people who fucked them over, and after that, they kill everything that person loves. They continue on this spree because a real killer never speaks on their murders. The four of you pretended to be murderers, pimps and so on. Now all of you fucked around and landed yourselves in some shit with a real Killer. So...

Darren walks over to the door and holds it open. In walks Matt's parents in their evening wear bruised and bloody, with their hands tied.

Following behind them are two men in all-black aiming guns at

their heads.

Matt's eyes get wide as he begins pleading, watching his parents get guided towards the wood chipper.

The sobs and pleading from Matt's parents meshes with his as the men make them stop in front of the chipper. Darren goes over to the chipper.

MATT

Not my parents, please! Whatever I've done, take it out on me! Please, don't kill my parents!

MATT FATHER

(Disappointed tone)
Son, what have you done?

MATT MOTHER

(Pleading)
Son, please help us. Tell him what you've done so he won't kill us.

MATT

I don't know, I don't know! He can kill me! You guys have nothing to do with whatever I've done!

His parents attempt to talk, and the men place the barrels to the back of their heads.

MATT (CONT'D)

I can't watch this, I can't watch this. I'm begging you. Please, take my life.

DARREN

Love in an actual devoted marriage with no deception is how a friendship should be. Maybe you guys should have been like these two, and you wouldn't be here now. But since none of you are, as I stated, I'm a real killer. So, you know how this is about to end?

MATT

Yes, I'm a snitch! Yes, I'm the softest guy in the group and anything else you wanna place on me, I'll gladly accept. Just please...don't kill my parents.

DARREN

"Till death do us part" is a legendary saying. It fits this situation, wouldn't you agree, Matt?

MATT

Not my parents. Don't do this to my parents, please. Kill me.

DARREN

I'd have no problem doing that, but this is what Josh chose for you. You'll collect...well, if you manage to live through this, you'll collect their life insurance.

MATT

Listen to me, please. My parents---

DARREN

Your parents are the people you should've thought about before you did what you did.

MATT

No! No, my parents have nothing to do with this!

DARREN

I love the balls you're displaying, Matt. It's too bad you didn't bring 'em out before it came to this.

MATT

Wait, before you do it.

DARREN

What's that?

MATT

(Sobbing)

Mom, dad. I...

One of the men shoves Matt's mother in first, and just when her feet are close to not being seen, his father gets shoved in next.

Their brief screams mix with Matt's cries echoing through the room as the machine destroys their bodies and blood spills out the other end.

Words can't describe the pure horror surging through Matt's body looking at the aftermath of his parents spilling out the chipper.

Joshua, Tyrell and Damen are speechless, trying to digest the gruesome act they witnessed. The men walk out of the room.

Darren stares at the bloodstained chipper, and then looks over at Matt with a stone face.

DARREN

This is y'all fault. Let that sink in,
and figure out the right answers.

Darren walks out the room. Matt has his head hung low, crying, mumbling words. Tyrell and Joshua are silent.

DAMEN

This shit is getting outta fuckin'
control.

Matt slowly lifts his head. Red faced and teary eyed, Matt looks over at Damen with a touch of rage in his eyes.

MATT

Outta control? Now...you think it's
outta control? My fuckin' parents are
a fuckin' puddle, and now it's outta
control?

TYRELL

What the fuck does he want?

JOSHUA

...If y'all woulda let me speak earlier,
maybe this wouldn't have happened.

MATT

Maybe if you would've actually voiced
your fuckin' idea this wouldn't have
happened? It took for you to realize
you could possibly lose a loved one
for you to finally use that shit
inside your skull you call a brain?
Well, I'll be goddamn. Let's hear it.

JOSHUA

Matt, I understand---

MATT

You don't understand a motherfucking

thing! The only person that matters to you is you! The way this is playing out I really do believe you're the reason why we're in this.

DAMEN

Let's calm down. He wants us to turn on each other so we can keep playing this fucked up game.

MATT

Calm down? He killed your cousin. His sister is over there suffering, and my parents can fill up an eight gallon jug, and you're telling me to calm down? Look at this shit, D. All of this shit is because of Joshua.

TYRELL

As fucked up as it sounds...I agree with Matt.

JOSHUA

Ty, are you serious?

TYRELL

It's fucked up, but everything so far is revolving around you.

JOSHUA

So you motherfuckers are ignoring the fact the sick fuck said we're here because of something that has to do with all of us? I know I fucked up, and I can't change that or apologize. But if we don't figure this shit out, we're all gonna be...

Darren comes back into the room.

DARREN

After I feel all of you have suffered enough, yes, you're all going to die. Unless you tell me why all of you are here, and who I am.

MATT

It's some bullshit Josh did. I'm not exactly sure about what it is, but we're here because of him.

DARREN

The money man speaks. What makes you so sure it's solely because of him?

MATT

Every fucked up outcome involves him in some fashion. Maybe you should kill somebody he loves or torture him until he confesses, but all of this shit is because of him.

Darren walks over to Matt.

DARREN

I can dig it. I'll tell you what. If the other two agree, Joshua will die and the rest of you can go free. If not...well, there's a penalty.

With confidence in his eyes, Matt looks over at Damen and Tyrell.

Just as they prepare to speak, when Darren turns to look at them, they have a change of heart. Darren looks back at Matt.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Looks like your homies don't agree with you.

MATT

Whoa, whoa, whoa. They agree. They just fuckin' agreed! Speak the fuck up!

DARREN

You gotta pay the price, money man.

Darren pulls out a pair of poultry scissors and Matt's eyes get wide.

MATT

No, no, no! What are you about to do?!

Darren grabs Matt's right hand.

MATT (CONT'D)

Don't fucking do it! Don't do it!

DARREN

That's something y'all should've been telling each other.

MATT

Don't--ah!

Darren cuts Matt's pinky finger off, followed by the ring and middle finger.

Matt screams out in pain, while Darren stares at him. The other three are silent, shaking their heads saddened knowing there's nothing they can do. Darren walks to the center of the room.

DARREN

Usually, all of you would've been dead, but that would distribute the reward y'all seek without a consequence.

DAMEN

What fuckin' reward?! We didn't do anything!

DARREN

The reward of having a story to tell, ending up getting murdered in some kind of violent shootout, or to be able to sit in jail bragging about what you did. You know as well as I do people love shit like that, and that's the reward the four of you are seeking.

JOSHUA

You're fuckin' crazy. You decided to attack us with bullshit! I don't know how you have all of this dirt on us, but either way, you're just fuckin' crazy.

DARREN

Funny you should say that, Josh. Knowing that, you should ask yourself how do I know so much shit about all of you. But no, I'm not crazy. But maybe you're right. Crazy people don't know they're crazy because they believe whatever they've done or said is right. Kinda like your brother.

JOSHUA

My brother got out of jail and changed his life around. So fuck you. That

little trick ain't working.

DARREN

(Laughs)

You know I'm not talking about him.
Damen, tell him about his younger
brother.

JOSHUA

D, what is he talking about?

Damen sighs, lowering his head.

JOSHUA (CONT'D)

D, what the fuck is he talking about?!

DARREN

Yeah, your older brother changed his
life around. Your younger brother is
just like all of you. He wanted a
story to tell. When he found out who
had his brother sent to jail, he had
one mindset.

JOSHUA

A story my--where are you going with
this?

DARREN

Instead of bringing harm upon Matt, he
decided to take it out on someone
else. I'll never understand why people
do that, but hey.

MATT

...What do I have to do with his younger
brother?

DARREN

Nothing at all. But your cousin who's
still in a coma does.

JOSHUA

Don't believe him, Matt, it's a lie.

DARREN

Ask Damen. He knows where the weapon
he used to attack her is at.

MATT

D, is that true?

Damen remains silent with his head down.

DAMEN
(Low tone)
...Yes.

MATT
Are you serious?

JOSHUA
He's lying. He's agreeing to save his own ass.

MATT
D, tell me that's not true.

DAMEN
...I'm so sorry, Matt.

MATT
Sorry? Sorry isn't bringing my cousin out of her coma!

DARREN
Matt, you should take into consideration, Joshua might be right about Damen lying.

MATT
Who would lie about something like that?!

DARREN
You sound like everybody else in the world. You hear a story and believe it without hearing the other side. Damn shame if you ask me. Another reason why people are getting killed even as we speak.

Darren walks out the room.

MATT
This asshole's brother basically murdered my cousin, and you helped cover the shit up?! What the hell is wrong with you?!

DAMEN
...It was the only way---

JOSHUA

Stop with the lies, aight! My younger brother wouldn't have the heart to do some shit like that.

MATT

Soft as pie like the other brothers. Now that I can believe.

JOSHUA

You know what, fuck you wigger! You're only around us so you won't seem racist, but deep down inside you are.

MATT

Such a low blow from the barely legal alien. Maybe I should use some of my racist money you love spending to have your ass deported.

JOSHUA

Motherfucker!

The two begin arguing back and forth trying to talk over the other.

Damen is silent, sulking in his guilt, but no one is paying attention to Tyrell remaining silent, looking suspicious. While the arguing continues, the door comes open. Instead of Darren walking in, JOSHUA'S YOUNGER BROTHER is shoved in tied down to a rolling chair.

The balance of the chair becomes shaky and he falls on his face.

He's gagged, bruised and bloody. The two stop arguing.

JOSHUA (CONT'D)

Bro! Bro, are you alright?!

Joshua's brother releases a muffled cry.

MATT

...He's next.

JOSHUA

(To Matt)

Shut your fuckin' mouth!

(To his brother)

Bro, it's gonna be okay. Trust me, we'll get out of this alive.

DARREN (O.S.)
Matt's right, he's next. But...it can
be prevented.

Darren comes into the room holding a Louisville bat propped
on his shoulder.

He walks over to Joshua's brother and stops.

JOSHUA
If you lay a finger on my brother, I
swear---

DARREN
Oh, shut the fuck up with the movie
cliches. If the shit didn't work with
Tyrell and his sister, what the fuck
makes you think it'll work for you?
Now if you want your brother to live,
shut the fuck up and let this happen.

Biting down on his lip with anger, Joshua has no choice but
to comply with what was told.

DARREN (CONT'D)
Good. Matt, this is your chance to
know the truth. Unless of course you
believe half of the story, and I'll
get him out the way.

JOSHUA
Matt, please don't---

MATT
Like always, you're only cool with me
when you need something. Why shouldn't
I let him kill your brother in front
of you like he did my parents?

JOSHUA
(Pleading)
I--I'm begging you.

DARREN
Times up, Matt.

Darren cocks the bat back ready to swing.

MATT
Wait!
(Sighs)

Let him talk.

Darren lowers the bat, looking at Matt with a smirk.

DARREN

You're taking the fun out of the game,
huh? Fine.

Darren kneels down and takes the gag from Joshua's brother's mouth.

DARREN (CONT'D)

You or your brother. Your words
determine who lives.

JOSHUA

Just kill---

Darren drops the bat and then pulls out his python, cocking it, aiming it at Joshua's head.

DARREN

Do you want the little bitch to die?

Joshua's eyes water up, trying to gain some courage.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Get to talking.

JOSHUA'S BROTHER

I'm...I'm the reason why your cousin
is in a coma. I was about to kill her,
but I had to run away because I almost
got caught.

JOSHUA

(Stunned)

Are...are you serious?

JOSHUA'S BROTHER

It's his fault Rando went to jail and
ended up...

(Sigh of disgust)

...you know what happened to him in
jail.

MATT

Why didn't you come after me? If you
knew I had something to do with it,
why didn't you come after me?!

JOSHUA'S BROTHER

(Scoffs)

Beating your ass would've been light work. I wanted you to suffer like my brother.

Darren places the barrel to Joshua's brother's head.

DARREN

Say goodnight.

JOSHUA'S BROTHER

Alright, alright!

TYRELL

You're showing him mercy, but you didn't give a fuck about my sister?!

DARREN

She's still alive for the moment. I can finish her off, but---

JOSHUA'S BROTHER

That dude told me to go after her. He told me when and where would be the perfect time.

Tyrell eyes get big, swallowing deep.

JOSHUA

Holy shit.

MATT

Ty, you set my cousin up to die? Why the fuck would you do that?

JOSHUA'S BROTHER

Because without you, this little clique wouldn't be able to stunt. He needed you to stick around, but he knew if you found out he had something to do with it, you'd say fuck everybody. I told my brothers what I did, and I asked Josh why does he hang around some fucking posers. I don't regret what I did, and I don't give a fuck about you or your family. But this is a shady ass group, and I don't know why it hasn't been brought to attention.

MATT

(To Joshua)

You knew about this shit? I was ready for D to die, and---

JOSHUA'S BROTHER

The crowbar and taser are buried in his backyard. I know because I was there.

The room is silent. Matt is lost for words looking at the people he thought were his friends.

DARREN

Doesn't it feel good to hear the whole story? Now...

Darren puts the gun away, and then walks over to Joshua, pulling the scissors back out.

DARREN (CONT'D)

The worst thing on this earth is a man who beats and rapes women. The second thing is the people who protect them because they're not doing harm to them or people they love. So because of that...

Just like with Matt, Darren removes three fingers on Joshua's right hand.

Joshua's brother watches and listens in horror to his brother's screams.

JOSHUA'S BROTHER

(Begging)

Leave him the fuck alone! I told the truth, leave him the fuck alone.

Focusing back on Joshua's brother, Darren places the scissors away, and then picks up the bat.

DARREN

You told the truth to clear your conscience. Not for me or them. But like I said...

He walks back over to Joshua's brother and looks down at him with a sadistic smile before he begins beating him in the head until his skull cracks.

Joshua watches, screaming in horror.

DARREN (CONT'D)

I told you I hate women beaters.

Holding the bloody bat with satisfaction, he turns looking at Joshua.

DARREN (CONT'D)

You knew what he did, and you didn't even tell your homie. I don't understand this fake ass clique. On the outside y'all display loyalty and mad love for each other. On the inside, y'all faker than a bitch who claims she ain't a ho. All this deception in this moist ass clique, but none of you have yet to say why y'all are here, wasting my fuckin' time. I'm tired of talking.

He throws the bat down and then reaches in his pocket pulling out a straight razor.

Opening the blade, he walks over to Tyrell's sister.

DARREN (CONT'D)

The life of his younger brother didn't make him want to tell the truth.

He quickly slits her throat, and then covers her mouth so he won't hear the gurgling.

Tyrell screams as the tears fall from his eyes.

DARREN (CONT'D)

The life of your slutty sister doesn't make you wanna tell the truth.

He places the razor away, and pulls the scissors back out, walking over to Tyrell.

Grabbing his right hand with authority, he prepares to cut his fingers off.

DARREN (CONT'D)

The life of his parents wasn't enough to make any of you tell the truth.

He cuts the pinky off and Tyrell screams.

DARREN (CONT'D)
Knowing he deliberately got your
sister pregnant, and stayed smiling in
your face wasn't enough.

He cuts off another finger.

DARREN (CONT'D)
And realizing your fake ass tough guy
role only scared the weak wasn't good
enough to make y'all tell the truth.

He cuts another finger off. Placing the scissors back, he
pulls the blade out and makes his way to Damen.

DARREN (CONT'D)
The motherfucker who sees and knows
all.

When he approaches him, he instantly grabs his ear and cuts
the bottom part off.

DARREN (CONT'D)
Seeing your cousin get murdered and
having it plastered on the internet
wasn't enough to make y'all tell the
truth.

He slings the piece to the floor as Damen and Tyrell continue
screaming in pain.

DARREN (CONT'D)
You bitches are about to die and get
left on display, but you won't be
identifiable.

Darren walks out the room.

MATT
(Scared tone)
We're gonna die. I'm about to die with
some cowards and I don't even fucking
know why.

JOSHUA
(Sobbing)
It doesn't matter. What else is there
to live for?

TYRELL
Coming from the man who got my little

sister killed.

JOSHUA

You got your sister killed.

TYRELL

I'm not the one who fucked her, got her pregnant and was trying to get her to have an abortion, or you would've swore up and down it wasn't yours.

JOSHUA

If I could get free, I'd---

DAMEN

You wouldn't do shit! None of us in this room is tough. None of us are street! We've pretended for so long, and now we're fucked. Whether we did something or not is a question we'll die not knowing. At least we can die like men and not some little bitches.

In pain, feeling ashamed about their actions, the four look at each other with confidence, nodding in agreement to what Damen said.

Darren comes back in the room with the scissors in hand, making a straight line towards Damen.

DARREN

Open your fuckin' mouth.

DAMEN

I'm not doing a motherfucking---

Darren hits him repeatedly in the stomach, and then once in the face.

While Damen is trying to catch his breath, Darren grabs his jaw and reaches in his mouth aggressively, grabbing his tongue, pulling it out.

With his tongue in his grasp, Darren opens the scissors prepared to cut it off.

DAMEN (CONT'D)

(Muttering)

I'll tell--I'll tell you! I'll tell you!

Darren releases his tongue.

DARREN
What was that?

DAMEN
...I said, I'll tell you.

DARREN
Don't tell me, I already know. Tell them.

DAMEN
(Low sigh)
All of this is because of what we did to Cam.

MATT
What? What happened to him has nothing---

DAMEN
There's no point in lying because I already told him the whole story.

TYRELL
Man, what the fuck?

DAMEN
This is all your fault, T. I should've stopped fucking with you from the get go, but---

JOSHUA
Whatever his made up story is, it has nothing to do with me.

Darren turns to look at him.

DARREN
Just fuck everything you saw and heard tonight? Look at your brother. Do you really expect me to believe you?

MATT
(Sobbing)
My parents are dead. I'm missing some fucking fingers, and for what?

DAMEN
There's nobody to place blame on but

ourselves.

TYRELL

Says the snitch.

DAMEN

Goddamn right, I snitched! I was the first person to see my cousin get killed. If I would've kept my mouth closed, he was going to kill my nephews and nieces next. So fuck you, I snitched, so what?

TYRELL

Why didn't you come to us first?! We could've---

DAMEN

Could've what?! You know what?

(Laughs)

I'm actually surprised people thought we were hardcore killers out there. But I guess when you have his money, all the bad bitches he supplies, your tough guy role and me knowing everything that goes on, I can see why people would believe the bullshit.

DARREN

Why didn't you admit this before these so-called "innocent people" were killed?

DAMEN

...I wanted them to suffer the same way I'm suffering.

JOSHUA

Wait, wait, wait. So you ultimately set us all up?

DAMEN

Yeah.

TYRELL

That was a bitch ass move.

DAMEN

No different from what you did.

TYRELL

You keep talking about some shit I have no idea about. You're involved with something to do with Cam, not me. All I know is my sister is lying over there dead, and I'm missing my fuckin' fingers! All of this shit that went down, and I still don't know who the fuck he is!

MATT

You might as well admit the truth.

TYRELL

Admit the truth about what?! I don't have shit to do with Cam getting killed!

MATT

I don't know what you did to D, but we all had a part in what happened to Cam.

TYRELL

(Scoffs)

Speak for yourself.

DARREN

Matt, if you tell me how the death of my son went down, you just might get out of this alive.

JOSHUA

(Shocked)

...Your son?

TYRELL

That's bullshit. Cam said his father ran out on him when he was young, and later on in life his mother told him he got killed.

DARREN

Didn't we find out what happens when people believe one side of the story without hearing both sides? That's one of the main reasons why these "innocent people" get killed. Only hearing the side of the story they wanna hear.

JOSHUA

This is some crazy shit.

DARREN

It's crazy? No, this is some real shit. See before Damen told me what I needed to know, Cam kept me updated with this little clique you little niggas formed. I always told my son to never be a follower, but above all, "Never" portray yourself as something you're not. Sadly his monkey ass didn't listen, so here we are.

DAMEN

(Somber tone)

Cam shouldn't have died the way he did.

DARREN

Are you saying he didn't deserve his life?

DAMEN

No. What I'm saying is...it shouldn't have ended the way it did.

DARREN

Really? And how should it have ended?

DAMEN

(Low sigh)

It was only supposed to make him get his mind together. Cam thought he was better than us from his looks, money and all around character. We all got fed up and decided to do something about it.

DARREN

So, it wasn't a group of other people. The four of you killed my son?

TYRELL

No!

MATT

No!

JOSHUA

No!

DAMEN

No!

DARREN

Well?

DAMEN

(Sighs)

This is how it went down.

BEGIN MONTAGE:

We see Matt in an alleyway at night talking to a group of unsavory looking guys.

While the conversation is going on, Matt pulls out a nice wad of money, handing it to one of the guys.

DAMEN (V.O.)

Matt paid some dudes we know in the hood we chill at. All they were supposed to do is rough him up. Now we see a house party going on.

Tyrell is moving through the people with some drinks in hand, making his way to CAM, twenty-two.

Cam is sitting on the sofa with some lovely women around him. Cam is a pretty boy.

Medium height, slender and high yellow. But the flashy young man looks nothing like his father. Finishing his drink, Cam places his cup on the floor, just in time for Tyrell to extend him another one.

Cam takes the drink, continuing to have a good time. Tyrell is looking at him with a sinister look, but when Cam looks at him, he quickly throws on a face to make Cam believe their friends.

DAMEN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Tyrell picked the spot to chill at, and told the guys when it'll be the perfect time to attack him. And of course, Josh made sure nothing but the baddest bitches attended the party to keep Cam distracted.

Now it goes outside behind the bushes from Matt, Joshua, Damen and Tyrell POV.

We can hear snickering from Matt, Joshua, Tyrell and Damen as they hide, keeping a steady focus on Cam's black Yukon. Cam and a lovely woman approach the truck, and you can tell by the way they're walking they're intoxicated.

The woman goes over to the passenger side, and just as Cam

opens the driver door, four guys rush him. The woman who was with him takes off.

At first, the guys are getting the best of him, but when he gains his ground, the tables turn.

While keeping a steady focus on the fight, we see Cam has already dropped two of the guys, working on the third, when the fourth pulls a gun out and shoots him in the back.

We can hear the shocked response from the four as Cam falls to the ground.

The person who shot Cam stands over him and then unloads the clip.

Startled words are heard coming from Damen, Joshua, Matt and Tyrell as they run off.

END OF MONTAGE:

INT. THE INDUSTRIAL BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

DARREN

Look at that. My son was a fighter no matter if he was drunk or sober, but his four jealous ass friends who he thought were his friends cost him his life.

(Scoffs)

Hard heads really do make soft asses.

The four are silent.

DARREN (CONT'D)

A clique built on loyalty, furnished inside with treachery. And somehow...

(Low chuckle)

Let me rephrase myself. The realest one who believed in loyalty is six feet under. That's some remarkable shit.

MATT

(Sobbing)

I didn't expect it to end that way. I swear to God, I didn't expect it to end that way.

DARREN

Of course you didn't, Matt. That's why

you still have one more secret your clique doesn't know about. Before we get to that...

He pats Damen on the shoulder with a smile.

DARREN (CONT'D)

How about you tell Tyrell your real gripe with him?

Damen lowers his head, takes a deep breath and then exhales slowly lifting his head.

DAMEN

...Shameka.

Tyrell looks over at him confused.

TYRELL

Shameka? What about Shameka?

DARREN

You knew I loved her, but you fucked her anyway.

TYRELL

What?! Man, I never touched that rat ho!

DARREN

That's the other favor you paid for, right, Matt?

TYRELL

What?

DARREN

One thing about these women you call hoes. You think you have 'em under control because they tell you, you fucked 'em good. Let you spoil 'em, and then you turn around and beat their ass, so forth and so on. You never stop to think somewhere down the road she's planning on fucking you up, or have you fucked up. And what happens after you end up in jail or dead? That same bitch is off to the next nigga who may or may not put her through the same shit.

(Soft laugh)

That's what kills me about you
youngin's who claim y'all pimpin'. And
as far as friendship...well we found out
tonight how far that goes.

TYRELL

Okay, I fucked the bitch because she
kept coming on to me. You knew she was
a runner, so I don't even know why
you're mad.

DARREN

They same reason why you're mad Josh
fucked your sister. Hos or not, you
don't fuck ya man's girl or somebody
from his family. And if you do, be a
real nigga and tell him up front. Or
at least let him know that you can.

Darren looks at his watch and sighs.

DARREN (CONT'D)

It's time for the shit show to end.
Amazing how money, images and pussy
can make or break friendships. Far as
who I am aside from Cam's father, am a
real nigga who moves real shit and
kills niggas and their families
without thinking twice or losing sleep
because I don't give a fuck about
dying. Now y'all know why the four of
you are here and who I am. So, I'll
leave you boys with two options.

Darren walks out the room.

MATT

...we ain't shit.

JOSHUA

I didn't hear you complaining any
other time.

TYRELL

You were really about to have me
killed over a bitch?

(To Matt)

And you were gonna pay somebody to
have the shit done?

DAMEN

I should've killed you myself so I wouldn't feel guilty about what we did to Cam.

TYRELL

You would've died trying.

DAMEN

Not by the hands of you.

TYRELL

I wish you would've---

JOSHUA

Just shut the fuck up! The only people who didn't deserve to die were our loved ones and Cam. Everybody in this room ain't shit. We deserve worse.

TYRELL

Look at---

MATT

Ty, just shut up and worry about what he has planned.

DAMEN

...I agree.

The door comes open and in walks four guys in all-black carrying shotguns with murderous intentions on their faces. Darren comes in carrying a duffle bag, which he places down on the slab.

Each of the men take position on the four aiming at their heads.

They all close their eyes, taking a deep breath.

DARREN

Since Damen gave me what I needed to know, you get to go free.

Tyrell gets ready to speak, but the sound of the man racking the shotgun prevents him.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Hold that thought, T.

Darren walks over to Damen with the scissors, sets him free

and then uncuffs him.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Go stand over there by the door. If you think about running he'll kill you.

Although he's scared, Damen does what he's told and moves over to the door with a man following behind him. Darren moves over to Matt, looking at him smiling.

DARREN (CONT'D)

The money man. I gotta let you go, considering they believe you're the softest one in the group.

Darren releases him. Matt stands breathing heavily, forming prayer hands, placing them to his lips, muttering some appreciative words.

He prepares to move and Darren places a hand to his chest.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Hold on, stay right there.

Matt is confused, but he does what he's told. Darren moves over to Joshua, looking at him shaking his head.

DARREN (CONT'D)

The man who can fuck any woman he wants, and nobody better check him about it. I'm glad I could meet you.

He releases him. Regret is on Joshua's face. Darren is looking at him with a smirk.

DARREN (CONT'D)

A man should never regret what he's done, especially if he knew the outcome. That's what makes men, men. Fix your face and take what's coming to you like a man.

Darren walks over to Tyrell smiling. Tyrell looks at him with a straight face.

DARREN (CONT'D)

The killer. Are you ready?

TYRELL

Whatever you're thinking, it better

ends with you killing me.

DARREN
What if it doesn't? And please don't
use that line I hate.

TYRELL
...you'll find out.

DARREN
(Laughs)
Oh shit, let me hurry up and set you
free. The anticipation is killing me.

He cuts him free, uncuffs him and then stands there looking
at him smiling.

DARREN (CONT'D)
Will I find out now or do you need a
few more seconds?

TYRELL
(Scoffs)
You're a tough guy with your soldiers
around.

DARREN
(Laughs)
They're the last thing you should be
worried about.

Darren laughs making his way back to the bag.

DARREN (CONT'D)
Here's how we're going to wrap this
up. The reason why I removed those
specific fingers is because most
people are right handed, and you can't
hold a gun with those missing fingers.
But if you were real killers, you can
shoot with either hand with no
problem.

Each of the men press the barrels against their heads and the
three tense up.

He opens the bag, and then picks it up, moving over to
Joshua.

Darren uses his eyes instructing Joshua to reach inside the
bag.

With a trembling hand, Joshua reaches inside and slowly pulls out a .38.

Moving over to Matt he does the same thing, and then finally over to Tyrell who does the same.

Darren moves back over by the slab, and then turns facing them.

DARREN (CONT'D)

You can kill me. Or you can kill the person you feel put you in this position. Killing yourself would be cool, but it wouldn't prove my point.

MATT

(Stammering tone)

What--what would be your point?

DARREN

To see if y'all finally found out the difference between a murderer and a killer.

TYRELL

Oh, I know the difference. I'll show you if you get him to lower this gun.

DARREN

Trust me, the guns will get lowered. What will it be? Are you going to kill me? Or will you kill the man who fucked your sister? Will you kill the man who had your brother sent to jail? Will you kill the man who was going to pay to have you killed? I mean, who's truly in the wrong?

The three look at each other with shaky hands, wide-eyed, uncertain about what the other might do.

DARREN (CONT'D)

I'll tell you what---

Before he can finish, Tyrell aims at Joshua, Joshua aims at Darren and Matt places the gun under his chin. They pull the triggers and the guns go click.

Confusion is on Joshua and Tyrell's face, while Matt opens his eyes confused as to why he's still alive.

Joshua and Tyrell continue trying to shoot, getting the same results.

Darren looks on smiling.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Apparently, there's two of you who don't know the difference. So..

With a smooth motion of his finger, Darren quickly points to Tyrell and Joshua.

Before their minds can register, their heads come off from a shotgun blast.

The bodies hit the ground and Matt shrieks. Darren walks over to Matt. Matt is quivering.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Interesting approach you attempted. May I ask why?

MATT

...Because I'm not a killer...or a murderer.

DARREN

Honesty. Honesty is what should've been displayed from the get go.

MATT

True. But there's nothing that can be done about it now.

DARREN

You're right about that.

MATT

So no matter what happens now, I had it coming. That's why I tried to kill myself. I'd rather kill myself instead of continuing this twisted shit.

Darren looks at him nodding his head in approval.

DARREN

Although you had a part in the demise of my son...I completely respect what you said. I hope you learned something from this.

MATT

(Humble tone)

Believe me, I have.

DARREN

I believe you. Live a good life the correct way, Matt. Hopefully you'll never see me again.

Darren nods his head at the other men instructing them it's time to go.

Darren, the men and Damen walk out the room. Matt stands staring at the gore filled room inhaling deep, exhaling a sigh of relief happy he's alive.

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. THE INDUSTRIAL BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

One light flickers on and off in the back of the building covered with graffiti. Filth covers the ground.

Four jet-black SUVs are parked. The men come walking out of the building. The four men get into one of the SUVs.

Darren and Damen walk up to one of the SUVs and stop.

DAMEN

My fuckin' ear. Did you really have to cut off a piece of my fuckin' ear?

DARREN

It could've been worse. Did you really think you would walk out of there untouched? Just because you helped me out doesn't mean you should go unharmed.

DAMEN

Alright, alright I get it. What was that about before we left?

DARREN

It was about more than just them realizing the difference between a murderer and a killer.

DAMEN

What was it about?

DARREN

You're alive. That's what you should be worried about.

DAMEN

I'm thankful for that. Um...why did you let Matt live?

DARREN

...Who said I did?

DAMEN

Huh?

DARREN

Do you know why they say "revenge is a dish best served cold?"

DAMEN

Never heard of it.

DARREN

(Scoffs)

Figures. Well, the meaning comes from the 1800s and it means your revenge is more satisfying when you plan it out, and then execute it when the person least expects it. Personally, I don't believe in that, but it's an interesting concept.

DAMEN

...what does that have to do with this situation?

DARREN

You asked me why I let Matt live, and I said did I? There's some people who believe in that phrase I just told you.

DAMEN

...okay.

DARREN

Like I said, you shouldn't worry about it. I'll tell you two things to think about, and then I gotta go.

DAMEN

What's that?

DARREN

Never show a woman you love her and follow through with it to get what you want, and then fuck her over. That's a vengeance far worse than what any man can do.

DAMEN

That's useful...I think.

DARREN

Trust me, it is.

DAMEN

And the other thing.

DARREN

People truly don't like other people. You can have a million people around you, and only one maybe two of them actually fuck with you. That's because people love being around what's popular as long as they get to shine too. When you cut the shine off, they'll cut you off. Why? Because they never cared for you, only what you can do for them.

DAMEN

Just like with what happened tonight.

DARREN

Nowhere near. What happened tonight was ignorance at its finest. What I just told you is something you should figure out as you carry on with life.

Darren opens the back door for him.

DARREN (CONT'D)

Just pray you don't run across me again. Live life correctly and remember what I just told you.

Darren walks to another SUV. Damen looks at him confused before getting into the truck. The truck with the men, and the truck Damen is in pulls off. Darren opens the driver door and gets in.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. THE TRUCK - MOVING - CONTINUOUS

Still suffering the pain from the missing part of his ear, Damen holds a smile, leaning back, relaxing, laughing under his breath.

DAMEN

I wonder why he told me the vengeance from a woman is far worse than what a man can deliver?

SHAMEKA (O.S.)

Because when a woman finds out the man who said he loved her was lying just to get some pussy, it stings because all he had to do was be up front.

Damen sits up confused.

DAMEN

Sha---

Shameka turns around in the passenger seat wearing a black hoodie, holding a Glock .40, which she fires hitting Damen four times in the stomach. The truck comes to a stop.

While Damen is stretched out in the back bleeding out slowly dying, Shameka pulls out a butcher knife, and then gets in the back repeatedly stabbing him.

SHAMEKA

(Still stabbing)

Since I was such a easy fuck, why did you make me feel like you loved me? I'm glad I was fucking your boys, weak ass nigga. Who's getting fucked now?

His breathing comes to an end. Satisfied with the kill, Shameka wipes the blood from her brown skin face, and then prepares to get out of the car. As soon as her feet touch the ground, she gets shot in the head, and her body falls to the ground.

A man comes up and moves her body out the way, and then pulls Damen's dead body out.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. THE INDUSTRIAL BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Matt is kneeling by the puddle of blood that used to be his

parents.

Tears fall from his eyes as he shakes his head.

MATT

I know I was an asshole to you guys,
and I apologize. I had no idea the
bullshit I was doing would lead to
this. From this point on, I swear I'll
be the man you guys wanted me to be.
Pretending is no longer in my future.
I love you.

He kisses his hand, and then gently places it down in the
blood, letting it sit there for a minute.

Releasing a soft sigh of guilt, he slowly removes his hand
and then stands to his feet.

When he turns around prepared to leave, he gets shot twice in
the stomach, falling back on the ground.

As he lies coughing up blood, his eyes get wide when he sees
his killer approach.

MATT (CONT'D)

(Barely breathing)

I...I didn't mean...

The killer shoots him three times in the face. Revealing the
killer, we see JOSHUA'S OLDER BROTHER wearing a wife beater
and shorts holding a nine-millimeter.

You can tell the three are related, but he's more so on the
rugged side as far as appearance.

Hate is spilling from his eyes staring at Matt's dead body.

JOSHUA'S OLDER BROTHER

That's for my brother's, puta.

He spits on his body and then makes his way out of the
building.

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. THE INDUSTRIAL BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

DARREN POV

Joshua's older brother comes out pleased about the outcome,

avenging the death of his brothers, his time in jail and what happened to him.

He gets ready to approach the truck, and that's when he gets gunned down by a hail of automatic gunfire.

A man in all-black walks over to his body and kicks him, making sure he's dead.

The man looks over at Darren and gives him the thumbs up. Six other men come into the scene holding lit Molotov cocktails.

Darren places a cigarette in his mouth, and lights it. Pulling his phone out, he looks at the text message with a slight smirk.

He takes a calm pull, and exhales. In the background we can see the men throwing the lit cocktails at the building.

It instantly catches on fire because gasoline was already poured around the building.

DARREN

That's how you wipe out a clique.

Taking another hit, he starts the truck up and pulls off. The building is engulfed in flames as the men walk back to the truck getting in, and the scene slowly fades to black.

"Love yourself before you trust people who claim to love you. That dictates life and death."

~Bernard Mersier~

END CREDITS