

"KILLED A MAN"

"Written By"

Christopher Bohlsen

cbohlse@as.edu.au

EXT. CAMPFIRE - NIGHT

Two men sit at a campfire. The first is THOMAS, a grizzled man of 35. The second is WILLIAM, a far younger man of 20.

THOMAS
You ever killed a man?

WILLIAM
Yeah. Fair few times.

THOMAS
How'd you do it?

WILLIAM
With a rifle from afar mostly.

THOMAS
How 'bout up close? You ever killed
a man up close?

WILLIAM
Once.

THOMAS
Describe it.

WILLIAM
He rode up on horseback, I guess
he'd been paid to kill me or some
such. He got of the horse and put
his hand to his gun. But I was the
faster draw and I shot him down. He
hit the ground, dead.

THOMAS
Where'd you shoot him?

WILLIAM
The head. I shot him in the head.

THOMAS
Mm. You told that story pretty
well. Lots of detail. You left out
some important bits though.

WILLIAM
Like what?

THOMAS
Like how when you shot him, half
his brain came out the back of his
head. 'Cause that's what a bullet

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THOMAS (cont'd)

does to a man. It's not like you'd imagine; the shot hits 'em with a puff of smoke and they go down. There's blood and other bits. It ain't pretty. And they don't die right away either. They twitch around, they scream. That's why you shoot 'em from afar. There's just a little red puff and they go down. You don't have to see the details. Easier on the soul.

The pair lie down and go to sleep.