

RIO HARRISON

BY
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FADE IN:

1 **EXT. RIO HARRISON RANCH - NIGHT** 1

A sprawling ranch house and barn sits in a remote location.

Cartel thug LORENZO GUZMAN dressed in black sneakers around the back of the house.

2 **INT. STEPHANIE'S BATHROOM - NIGHT** 2

STEPHANIE HARRISON, a voluptuous full figured woman with long dark hair steps from the shower and grabs a towel. She dries off, grabs her robe putting it on as she moves to her bedroom.

She picks up her necklace and puts it on, then brushes her hair.

Lorenzo LUNGES out of the closet and grabs her. He forces her onto the bed as she screams.

She tries stabbing him with her brush. He knocks it from her hand and slaps her several times until she's out cold.

He rips her necklace off and puts it in his pocket. He places handcuffs on her and carries her out the bedroom.

3 **EXT. EDDIE CRUZ CLUBHOUSE - NIGHT** 3

A car pulls into the parking lot. Lorenzo gets out and grabs Stephanie from the trunk of the car. Still in her robe, he tosses her over his shoulder and goes inside.

4 **INT. EDDIE CRUZ CLUBHOUSE - NIGHT** 4

EDDIE CRUZ, cartel boss awaits her presence as Lorenzo carries her into the room. She kicks and screams. Eddie calls a number on his cell.

STEPHANIE HARRISON

Where are you taking me! Please don't kill me!!

EDDIE CRUZ

Gag that bitch and lock her in my room. And find some clothes for her.

LORENZO GUZMAN
You might need this.

He tosses her necklace to Eddie and disappears into the bedroom.

EDDIE CRUZ
(on phone)
Hey Vato, I'm sending you a little present to give to our new business associate. A trucker that goes by Rio Harrison. My intel says he's our guy. He and his buddies are all outlaws. They'll run for the right price. Give the necklace to him and tell him he needs to talk to me. This is your shot to move up in rank. Don't blow it.

5 **INT. EDDIE'S BEDROOM**

5

Eddie enters and sits beside Stephanie on the bed. Her mouth is gagged.

EDDIE CRUZ
Well hello there. I'm Eddie. Bet you're wonderin' why you're here. I'm gonna to tell you. My brother Jessie and I have a family business and need commercial transportation. So, we need to find your brother.

Eddie removes her gag.

STEPHANIE HARRISON
My brother's in south Texas.

He laughs.

EDDIE CRUZ
Cough up his number if you wanna live.

Fear floods her face.

6 **INT. HERNANDEZ HOME - NIGHT**

6

VICTOR HERNANDEZ, 40'S, a cartel gofer is in his recliner with his eyes glued to the TV. Someone knocks at the door. He gets up to answer.

He opens the door and a bicycle courier hands him a small package. He tips the messenger, closes the door and opens the envelope. He pulls out Stephanie's necklace and admires it.

7

EXT. TRUCK STOP IN MCALLEN, TEXAS - NIGHT

7

Thunder, a sleek black Peterbilt 379 with metallic red decals on the doors pulls into a fuel isle with a fifty-three foot dry van trailer. The engaged air breaks hiss. RIO HARRISON steps down from his rig.

He inserts his fuel card into the reader and punches his info. VICTOR HERNANDEZ approaches.

VICTOR HERNANDEZ
Are you Senor Rio?

RIO HARRISON
Yep, and I ain't buyin' nothin'.
Move along.

VICTOR HERNANDEZ
I think you might want to talk to
my boss, Eddie Cruz. We got your
sister.

Rio grabs the phone from him.

RIO HARRISON
(Angered)
Who the hell are you?

8

INT. EDDIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

8

Eddie runs his fingers down Stephanie's leg. He removes her hand cuffs.

EDDIE CRUZ
(on phone)
Mr. Rio, is that how you greet a
fellow business partner?

He gets up and tosses her some clothes.
Get dressed.

RIO HARRISON
(VO)
Who are you tellin' to get dressed?
You best not have done anything to
her. You're dead if you have.

EDDIE CRUZ
Relax Vato, we haven't touched her.

He eases his way to a window.

9

EXT. TRUCK STOP IN MCALLEN, TEXAS - NIGHT

9

Rio steps away from the pumps.

RIO HARRISON
(on phone)
What's this about my sister?

EDDIE CRUZ
(VO)
It's like this, you're workin' for my brother and me from now on. If you don't comply, you lose your family. And we'll start with your sweet sister.

RIO HARRISON
Don't hurt her. What do you want from me?

EDDIE CRUZ
(VO)
I need you to go with my crew and load your trailer. Take it to our main drop yard in Dallas. Recruit more drivers. Ones you can trust and come back for more. Your sister can go home then. Got that Vato?

RIO HARRISON
I can bring six more trucks.

10

INT. EDDIE'S BEDROOM

10

EDDIE CRUZ
(on phone)
Very good. I knew you would see things my way.

Eddie turns from the window to find Stephanie gone. His outlaws are nowhere in site. He hangs up.

EDDIE CRUZ
Where the hell did she go!! Guys, get the hell in here!

Lorenzo storms back into room.
Go find her!

11 **INT. EDDIE CRUZ CLUBHOUSE/HALLWAY** 11

CARLOS and ARNOLD RAMIREZ roam the hall. Lorenzo motions for them follow.

 LORENZO GUZMAN
 Come on guys, you let her get away!

12 **EXT. FLYING J TRUCK STOP/MCALLEN, TX** 12

Rio shoves his finger in Hernandez's face.

 RIO HARRISON
 I swear to God if you people hurt
 her,

He pulls his fist back as though he's about to backhand him.
 you'll wish you hadn't! Get it the
 damn truck.

He hangs up the fuel hoses while Hernandez climbs in the truck.

CHAMP, Rio's rescue dog barks and growls at Hernandez. He falls backwards onto the ground.

Rio walks up.
 Yeah, you're gonna need to watch
 out for Champ. He knows you're up
 to no good. Now get your ass in
 the truck!

He picks him up and thrusts him against the truck.

 VICTOR HERNANDEZ
 Take it easy man. Call off your
 dog!

Rio motions for Champ to stand down and he disappears into sleeper. Hernandez steps up into the jump seat, and Rio climbs into his drivers seat.

13 **EXT. BUDGET INN MOTEL - NIGHT** 13

Stephanie runs as fast as she can and takes cover in a dark corner of the motel parking lot. She watches a couple leave a room without closing the door. They get in a truck and leave.

Stephanie rushes into the room to hide.

Guzman and the Ramirez brothers arrive just in time to see her. Carlos and Arnold go in while the Guzman stands guard.

They find her in the closet. Arnold pulls her out and throws her onto the bed and prepares to rape her.

CARLOS RAMIREZ

Hey Vato! Don't mess with this one. Boss will get pissed. Let's just get her back, asap!

Arnold reluctantly gets off of her.

ARNOLD RAMIREZ

Dude you're no fun. He wouldn't know a damn thing.

He grabs her and pulls her up. He pushes her out the door.

CARLOS RAMIREZ

Maybe so, but she would. You wanna risk her not tellin'? That move could have you pushin' up daisies.

LORENZO GUZMAN

Listen to your bro vato. You don't want to do anything stupid.

14

INT. EDDIE'S BEDROOM

14

Eddie impatiently marches back and forth in his room when his cartel brings Stephanie back in and sits her in a chair.

EDDIE CRUZ

Where'd you run off to sweet thing?

STEPHANIE HARRISON

What does it matter? You're gonna kill me anyway. Your men already tried to rape me.

EDDIE CRUZ

Who? Which of my men tried to rape you?

She points to Arnold. Jessie pulls his pistol and shoots him between his eyes and he drops dead.

Carlos is frightened. Guzman has no reaction.

Sweetie, that's why you need to stick by me until your brother and his team do as we say. Then you can go home. My men are all top picks to be my entourage, unless they get out of line, then they die like everyone else. It's how things work in our family.

He motions to Carlos.

Get this son of a bitch out of my site.

15 **EXT. JESSIE CRUZ BARN - NIGHT**

15

Rio pulls up to a barn. The air brakes hiss. Hernandez jumps out in a hurry. Champ snarls at him as he slams the door shut.

He quickly begins to load illegal immigrants, drugs and weapons. Rio jumps out to check out the situation.

RIO HARRISON

Hey punk, just make sure they have everything they need. Food, water, piss can. I'm gettin' some sleep.

He walks back to his door and climbs in.

16 **INT. RIO HARRISON SLEEPER UNIT - NIGHT**

16

He calls a trucker friend.

17 **INT. LIVING ROOM OF TOM "COWBOY" STANTON - NIGHT**

17

The house phone rings. TOM "COWBOY" STANTON, a rugged fun spirited man answers.

TOM STANTON

Hello.

RIO HARRISON

(VO)

Tom, I need you man. How soon can you be ready to roll? The cartel kidnapped Stephanie. They want me to haul illegals and other contraband from McAllen to Dallas.

TOM STANTON

Have you called Hanson?

RIO HARRISON

(VO)

Next move brother.

TOM STANTON

Okay, call when you're ready.

RIO HARRISON

(VO)

Will do. And hey, call a few of our crew. We're gonna need six more trucks and dry vans. Meet ya at the Pilot in Dallas tomorrow.

TOM STANTON

You got it!

He hangs up and ponders at moment. He picks up the phone again and calls a number.

18

INT. HOME OF TRUCKER JEB STONE - NIGHT

18

The phone in the study rings. JEB STONE, a tall husky man in his late 50s enters the room and answers.

JEB STONE

Hello, come in.

He sits in his recliner.

TOM STANTON

Jeb, it's Tom. How the hell are ya?

JEB STONE

I'm good Tom. How about yourself?

TOM STANTON

Been doin' good my friend. Listen, Rio needs our help. Have you got a couple of days to spare? Seems the cartel kidnapped Stephanie. We're goin' on a rescue run. Can we count ya in?

JEB STONE

I'm in. What the hell's goin' on?

TOM STANTON

They're makin' him haul illegals and God only knows what to Dallas. Probably some of them ISIS terrorists.

They want him to bring other drivers in. Only way to get Stephanie back. Texas Rangers are gonna be all over this.

JEB STONE

Count me in. What's the game plan?

TOM STANTON

He's having us meet at the Pilot tomorrow. I'll be teamin' up with him. Can you get in touch with Sammie Jo and the others? See if they're available? We're gonna need to team each truck, so let 'em know.

JEB STONE

You bet. I'll get right on it.

TOM STANTON

Ok good. I'll call you tomorrow. Thanks buddy.

19

EXT. JESSIE CRUZ BARN - NIGHT

19

Hernandez wraps on the driver door. Rio opens his door. Champ hovers beside him. Hernandez hands him a fake set of bills and an envelop full of cash and the address.

He gets in a car and leaves.

Rio puts the envelope in the door panel. He fires up the engine and turns on his lights and flashers. He steps out helping Champ down. Champ follows him to do a quick pre-trip inspection on his truck and trailer.

Upon completion, he opens the drivers door and helps Champ into the truck. He jumps in his seat and shuts the door.

The air brakes hiss upon release. Gears change and he pulls out.

20

INT. RIO HARRISON TRUCK - NIGHT

20

He sips his coffee.

RIO HARRISON

(To himself)

This is gonna be a long night.

Champ jumps down from the bunk and sits beside the drivers seat. He pets him.

Hey boy!

Champ hops up onto the jump seat and scopes out the territory. He gives a whimper, as though he knows something isn't right.

It's okay boy. Things are under control. God's got this.

Champ looks at him panting and smiles.

21 **EXT. SOUTH TEXAS - NIGHT** 21

Aerial shot of RIO HARRISONS' truck and trailer as he heads northbound.

22 **INT. TEXAS RANGERS OFFICE - MORNING** 22

Texas Ranger MIKE HANSON, a tall husky outdoors type enters briskly as his secretary SHANNON BENNETT, a beautiful blonde informs him of a call.

SHANNON BENNETT

Sir, Rio Harrison is on line one.

Hanson continues towards his office.

MIKE HANSON

Thank you Bennett.

Ranger Hanson answers his phone and hangs his jacket on the coat rack.

MIKE HANSON

What can I do for you Rio?

23 **EXT. SAN ANTONIO TEXAS - MORNING** 23

Aerial of RIO HARRISONS' rig on interstate 35 northbound.

RIO HARRISON

(VO)

I need your help.

24 **INT. RIO HARRISON TRUCK - MORNING** 24

Champ, still in the jump seat.

RIO HARRISON

(on phone)

I've got a load of illegal immigrants from all over, guns and drugs I'm bringin' to a drop yard in Dallas. Problem is, they've got my sister.

25

INT. RANGER HANSON'S OFFICE - MORNING

25

He sits at his desk.

MIKE HANSON

Where exactly are you?

RIO HARRISON

(VO)

North of San Antonio. I'll be where they want me late today.

MIKE HANSON

Where's that?

RIO HARRISON

(VO)

Inter-modal freight in Dallas.

Hanson writes down the address.

MIKE HANSON

Got it. We'll be ready. What all do you have on these guys?

RIO HARRISON

(VO)

It's the Cruz cartel family. They expect me to bring in more drivers and keep doin' it. They're gonna kill my family if I don't do as they say.

MIKE HANSON

Relax, I've already got a plan coming through. Those thugs are never as bright as they think they are. Do you know where they have Stephanie?

RIO HARRISON

(VO)

Not yet. I'll know when I get there.

26 **EXT. EDDIE CRUZ CLUBHOUSE - DAY**

26

Establishing shot.

Hispanic neighborhood. Homeless people sleep on the street
as passersby cast no cares.

27 **INT. EDDIE CRUZ CLUBHOUSE - DAY**

27

Eddie calls his brother JESSIE CRUZ, the most ruthless of the
two.

JESSIE CRUZ

(VO)

Yes Eddie, what do you need?

EDDIE CRUZ

What about the girl? His sister.
I don't have time to deal with her.
She's too much trouble. Are you
sure you want her brother workin'
for us? What makes you think you
can trust this bunch of renegade
truckers?

JESSIE CRUZ

(VO)

Because my intel tells me so.

EDDIE CRUZ

Brother she's sneaky. She's
already gotten away once.

JESSIE CRUZ

(VO)

Don't let anyone touch her and send
her down here? She's my leverage.

EDDIE CRUZ

I'm sendin' her your way.

Eddie motions to Carlos.

EDDIE CRUZ

Take this nice lady to Jessie.

CARLOS RAMIREZ

To the ranch?

EDDIE CRUZ

Take her to the jet. I've got
enough to deal with here. Send
one of our men with her.

Carlos takes Stephanie and leaves.

28 **EXT. EDDIE CRUZ CLUBHOUSE - DAY** 28

Guzman and Carlos put Stephanie in a black SUV and leave.

29 **EXT. LOVE FIELD AIRPORT TARMAC - DAY** 29

The cartel SUV pulls onto the tarmac by Cruz's private jet.
Guzman gets out and escorts Stephanie onboard the jet.

Ground crew close the door and secure it.

Carlos drives off.

30 **EXT. STANTON RANCH - DAY** 30

Meadows span many acres. Gorgeous herds of cattle graze.

31 **I/E. STANTON BARN - DAY** 31

Tom and his wife BETH STANTON, a beautiful full figure woman
unload livestock feed from their truck to a rack by their
tack room.

BETH STANTON

Honey, why you? Doesn't he have
younger drivers for that?

TOM STANTON

Yes dear, but he needs me. He's
dealin' with the cartel.

BETH STANTON

That's what frightens me Tom. I
want you to make it back home to
me.

TOM STANTON

I will sweetheart.

BETH STANTON

How's Champ doin'?

TOM STANTON
 Champ's doin' great!

BETH STANTON
 Those two are made for each other.
 It was such a nice gesture for Rio
 to take him in and give him a home.

TOM STANTON
 Yes it was, even if it's a mobile
 home most times.

They chuckle.

BETH STANTON
 So where are you two goin', and
 when do you expect to be home?

TOM STANTON
 I'm not sure. He mentioned McAllen
 last night, so he ought to be
 arrivin' late this afternoon. He's
 got business before pickin' me up.
 He's asked me to call in a few
 buddies. We're puttin' together an
 old fashioned convoy. He's called
 in the Texas Rangers, so we're
 gonna have the law on our side this
 time.

BETH STANTON
 He should leave Champ with me.

TOM STANTON
 I'll mention it to him.

32 **EXT. PUSSY CATS LOUNGE - DAY** 32

Eddie Cruz arrives with his crew. His entourage protects him
 as they enter.

33 **INT. PUSSY CATS LOUNGE - DAY** 33

Half naked women are everywhere. Seductive music plays on
 surround sound as dancers work the stages. As Eddie eases
 towards his back office, a customer gets touchy with one of
 the girls.

PUSSY CAT CUSTOMER
 Aw COME ON chic!! As much as I've
 tipped you, you can let a man grab
 some strange!!

Eddie motions to his largest crew member to take action. The big guy grabs the customer and walks him to the door, opens it and tosses the customer out like a rag doll.

They continue to Eddie's office. TRACY UGHART, Pussy Cats manager follows them in. Cartel crew member RANDY SANCHEZ remains as guard by the door.

34

INT. EDDIE CRUZ OFFICE - DAY

34

Eddie and his crew settle in. He breaks out cocaine on his desk.

EDDIE CRUZ
(to Tracy)
Get the new hires in here now.
It's audition time.

TRACY UGHART
(on radio)
Send in the new girls.

Eddie shares lines of cocaine with his men as the immigrant women and young girls enter the room.

He looks them over carefully as they enter. He picks out all women looking over 30 years of age to go to one side of the room.

EDDIE CRUZ
(To Tracy)
Take these old hags to the back.

Tracy gathers the women and escorts them from the room.

35

INT. BACK ROOM/PUSSY CAT LOUNGE SWEAT SHOP

35

Tracy leads the women to their bunks. Blankets hang over wires dividing the shop area equipped with sewing machines of various kinds used to make clothes and other knock off products from major fashion designers.

TRACY UGHART
Get yourselves settled in and find spots in the shop. And welcome to America. This is your home from now on. There are no escape routes, so don't even think about it. You bitches belong to me now.

The immigrant women saddened as they find an empty bunk. GLORIA MARTEN, Tracy's chosen bitch stands dumbfounded.

TRACY UGHART

Hey sweetheart, you're pretty hot
lookin'.

Tracy feels her butt and forces a kiss on her mouth. Gloria
disgusted turns her head away.

Tracy slaps her face hard, knocking her to the floor.

Listen up bitch! You're mine now.
And I ain't talkin' 'bout just
workin' the sweat shop. You're my
lover girl. You do what I tell you
to do, and maybe, just maybe I'll
let ya have some special
privileges. Get your butt up off
the floor and follow me to my room.

(with sarcasm)

You ladies get yourselves settled
in and go to work.

(to Gloria)

Come on girlfriend.

Tracy helps her up from the floor.

I'm feelin' frisky. I'll show you
to our room. I'm in the mood for
love.

36

INT. EDDIE CRUZ OFFICE

36

EDDIE CRUZ

My brothers, Jessie's bringin' in
our newest meat by the truck loads.

Eddie laughs. One of the girls performs a lap dance on him.
Cartel member FELIX GALLARDO, the toughest member concurs.

FELIX GALLARDO

That's what I'm talkin' 'bout man!
So, that should open the doors to
new clubs now. Shouldn't it?

EDDIE CRUZ

Exactly. Our family is about to
grow immensely in the states.
Speakin' of which, we need to
hurry. We're suppose to meet the
first truck at the drop yard
shortly.

Felix nods at him.

37 **EXT. DROP YARD - EVENING** 37

Rio pulls up to the gate. The guard lets him in. Three buses pull in behind him and follow his truck to the back lot.

38 **EXT. BACK LOT/DROP YARD - MOMENTS LATER** 38

The air brakes hiss when he stops his rig and cuts off the engine. Rio jumps out to open the back doors. Eddie and his men pull up behind the rig. Assault rifles drawn, Felix takes charge as Eddie deals with Rio.

Felix orders the immigrants out of the trailer and into the buses. Eddie gives Rio an envelope.

EDDIE CRUZ

My brother's address in the envelope. You can get your sister there.

Rio stands still as he takes the envelope and watches the gang hustle the weapons, drugs and people into the buses.

He looks in the envelope and pulls out some cash and a note. He tucks the cash back in the envelope and reads the note.

Close up of the note:

1755 NFD 681

Puerto Rico, Texas

Rio climbs back in his drivers seat.

39 **INT. RIO HARRISON TRUCK - EVENING** 39

Rio makes a call.

RIO HARRISON

Tom, you ready?

TOM STANTON

(VO)

You bet! We're on our way.

40 **EXT. MCALLEN AIRPORT - NIGHT** 40

The Cruz's private jet lands on a runway and taxis to a stop. A black SUV pulls into view and stops by the jet.

Lorenzo Guzman debarks with Stephanie at gunpoint. A driver opens the back door and they get in. The driver returns to his door, gets in and drives away.

41 **EXT. JESSIE CRUZ RANCH HOUSE - FRONT COURTYARD/DRIVE - NIGHT**

The Cruz's SUV pulls into view and stops in front of the main house. Cartel boss Jessie Cruz steps onto the front porch.

The driver quickly gets out and goes around and opens their door.

Lorenzo steps out. He takes Stephanie's hand to help her out.

The driver gets back in and drives away.

Lorenzo escorts her to Jessie. Jessie reaches for her hand. She nervously takes his hand and follows his lead. Lorenzo opens the front door for them. He follows them inside.

42 **INT. JESSIE CRUZ RANCH HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT** 42

Jessie leads her to the couch and forces her to sit.

JESSIE CRUZ

Miss Stephanie, it's so nice to meet you. You're more beautiful than I'd imagined.

STEPHANIE HARRISON

You're going to kill me aren't you?

JESSIE CRUZ

I'll explain it to you.

STEPHANIE HARRISON

You're thugs have already tried raping me. Why don't you just kill me first and get your damn jollies off after I'm dead you bastards?!

JESSIE CRUZ

(laughing)

Well that's a great direct question. And it deserves a great direct answer.

Jessie seductively reaches for her crotch and feels her up.
That's why I have you here with me.
Even I can't trust what my men would do to you.

As long as your brother does what I
say, I won't rape you before
feeding you to my alligators.

Fear floods her face again. Jessie motions to Lorenzo.

JESSIE CRUZ
Tie her up and gag her. Then cuff
her to my bed.

Lorenzo takes Stephanie by her arm and leads her to Jessie's
master bedroom.

Jessie turns on the TV and relaxes on the couch.

43

EXT. PILOT TRUCK STOP - DALLAS, TEXAS - NIGHT

43

Rio exits the fuel desk. Tom awaits him with his boot on
Rio's running board and his overnight bag on the ground
beside him.

RIO HARRISON
Thank God.

TOM STANTON
You ready to roll?

RIO HARRISON
Yeah. Hop in.

Tom grabs his bag and walks around to the passenger side and
climbs in and tosses his bag in the sleeper. Rio climbs in
the drivers seat. Champ greets Tom with a lot of love.

44

INT. RIO HARRISON TRUCK - NIGHT

44

Tom gives Champ some love. Rio scratches in his log book and
starts the engine.

TOM STANTON
(to Champ)
Hey Champ!! I sure have missed
you!!
(to Rio)
You keepin' logs on this?

Rio grabs a gear and disengages the air brakes. They hiss as
he pulls off the fuel bay.

RIO HARRISON

Yeah. Just in case. San Marcos scales are the only ones to worry about.

TOM STANTON

And they're closed most times.

RIO HARRISON

Not much need to worry. We're just gonna get my sister. Did you have any luck with our friends?

TOM STANTON

Yep. They're already fueled up sittin' on the back 40. Brought plenty of firepower.

Rio glances at his bag in the floor, and then looks inquisitive at Tom.

RIO HARRISON

In that?

Tom looks a little surprised as he returns the same look.

TOM STANTON

You ain't seen what I brought yet! Don't be lookin' a gift horse in the mouth, and don't be forgettin' who taught you to shoot. And drive...

Rio cuts him off.

RIO HARRISON

And drive a truck. I know. Sorry if I seem a little tense.

45

EXT. PILOT TRUCK STOP - DALLAS, TEXAS - NIGHT

45

Rio pulls his truck and trailer around to the back lot known as the back 40. He backs into an empty spot alongside their team.

Jeb Stone, JIM SIMPSON, retired Army 60's, JOHN STERLING, retired Army 60's are the first to greet him.

SAMMIE JO, honorable discharge from the Army and Rio's ex-girlfriend, STEVE JACOBS, ex-Air Force and TAMMY WEST, a truckers family's youngest step up to greet Rio after the others.

JEB STONE

Rio, how the hell are ya? It's been a long time brother.

RIO HARRISON

Been doin' okay considerin' this mess with Stephanie. We'll shut down at the Flyin' J north of McAllen and wait for word from Hanson. He's settin' up various law enforcement teams including SWAT and ICE.

TOM STANTON

They're already watchin' the crew Rio just dealt with?

RIO HARRISON

Yes they are.

(to Tom)

Can you walk Champ real quick?

He hands Tom Champ's leash and he strolls off with him.

Rio pulls out a wad of cash.

Here's some cash for your fuel. They're payin' us huge money to transport these people. I'm splittin' it with all of you.

Sammie Jo takes her cut of fuel money.

SAMMIE JO

Compliments of the Texas Rangers?

RIO HARRISON

Continues to pass out the money.

That's right! They're lettin' us keep the money. Hanson's goin' to let us know when they're in place in the morning.

SAMMIE JO

When this is over, you owe me dinner.

RIO HARRISON

I'd like that, very much. It's a date.

Rio hands Tammy West her money.

TAMMY WEST
 Sounds like we're about to have
 some FUN!!

JIM SIMPSON
 I do believe you're right Tammy.

He takes his money from Rio.

JOHN STERLING
 Sweet deal.

He takes his money from Rio. And Steve takes his share.

STEVE JACOBS
 Thank ya Rio my brother.

RIO HARRISON
 Ya'll are most welcome, and thanks
 for doin' this.

Tom comes strolling back with Champ.

TOM STANTON
 Ya'll ready to roll?

All of them speak together.

ALL DRIVERS
 (possible ad lib)
 Damn right. Let's do this.

They climb in their trucks and fire up the engines. The hissing of air brakes being released, headlights come on as they grab gears. Tom and Rio roll out first with Tom at the wheel.

Jeb takes second place, Jim takes third, John takes fourth, Sammie Jo takes fifth, Tammy takes sixth, and Steve takes the caboose.

46

EXT. RIO HARRISON CONVOY - NIGHT

46

Aerial shot of their trucks on the interstate highways 20 and 35 mix master as they head south on 35.

ANOTHER ANGLE -- STREET POV

Rio's convoy speeds by.

47

EXT. CARTEL WORK FARM - NIGHT

47

Three buses pull into a plantation and drive down a long dusty road.

They pull up to a row of bunk house and stop. Eddie and his armed cartel are quick to hustle the men and boys off.

ERNESTO FONSECA, a giant of the cartel family stays onboard guarding the women and girls.

JOSE MARTINEZ, a huge cartel member steps out from the main house with his armed men.

JOSE MARTINEZ

Fresh meat. Good. We'll take it from here. How are things with your brother?

EDDIE CRUZ

Good. Real good. We have truckers lined up now. Business is about to really kick in. We'll have another few truckloads sometime tomorrow night.

JOSE MARTINEZ

Excellent.

Jose motions to his men.

JOSE MARTINEZ

Bring them and strip them down. Bring their things to me.

(To Eddie)

As always, it's good to see you Eddie. You're welcome to stay and party with us.

EDDIE CRUZ

Not tonight. We've still got these bitches to deliver. I'll take a quick drink while you're gettin' our cut.

Eddie motions his men to watch the buses. He follows Jose inside while Jose's cartel take the refugees inside the main house with them.

48

INT. CARTEL WORK FARM - MAIN HOUSE

48

Jose's second in command DANNY AMARANTO orders the gunmen to place the men and boys in the main room and rip their clothes off, taking their belongings.

DANNY AMARANTO

Put these idiots in the main room over the plastic. Everyone place your personal things in these bags except your cell phones. Give them to Jose.

The cartel collect them in black bags. Jose grabs the first immigrant closest to him, Fredrico Benito and takes his cell phone. He opens it and looks at the contacts list and calls his family.

JOSE MARTINEZ

Hello, is this the family of
(to Fredrico)

Jose holds the phone to Fredrico's mouth.
State your name if you want to live.

FREDRICO BENITO

Mom? It's me, Fredrico. We're in trouble.

Jose yanks the phone away.

JOSE MARTINEZ

That's enough.
(to Mrs. Benito)
As you just heard, he's in a world of hurt if you can't send ten grand.
(few beats)
What? You don't have that kind of money? Oh, ok.

Jose pulls his handgun with a silencer attached and fires a bullet into Fredrico's forehead. He drops dead and the rest of the immigrants are in shock.

He hangs up and grabs the next victim, Leon Edmundo and his phone and calls his family.

49

INT. EDMUNDO HOME/MEXICO - NIGHT

49

The phone rings. Rosita Edmundo, Leon's mother answers.

56

INT. CARTEL WORK FARM

56

JOSE MARTINEZ

That's what we thought.

Jose fires a bullet into Leon's heart. He falls dead.
He's dead. Have a good night now.

He clicks it on speaker phone to hear her sobbing for a moment before he hangs up.

And that's how we weed out the ones
we have to house and feed. After
all, we do need to keep a few
slaves.

57

INT. EDMUNDO HOME/MEXICO

57

Leon's mother falls to the floor as she weeps. Her family comes to her side and helps her up.

ROSITA EDMUNDO

Ellos han matado a Leon.

She continues to cry.

58

INT. CARTEL WORK FARM - MAIN HOUSE

58

JOSE MARTINEZ

Get these two out of here and go
bury them.

His men are quick to remove them from the house.
Enjoyin' the show Eddie?

EDDIE CRUZ

Yeah bro. It's different. Weedin'
out the ones that can pay ransom,
from those that can't.

JOSE MARTINEZ

Damn right. Saves money from
feedin' these bastards. Sanchez,
you guys get this dead meat the
hell out of here.

CARLITO SANCHEZ, a small slender cartel member begins picking up the first body. RICHARD MONTY, a bigger muscled up cartel starts helping him.

59

EXT. CARTEL WORK FARM/BURIAL GROUNDS - NIGHT

59

Carlito and Richardo dig the graves for the dead illegal immigrants.

CARLITO SANCHEZ

Hey vato, you ever give thought about making a break for it?

RICHARDO MONTY

What do ya mean? From the Cruz's?

CARLITO SANCHEZ

Yeah man.

RICHARDO MONTY

Relax guy, you're new here. That's the last thing you need to think about. If they get wind you're even thinkin' about it, they'll kill you. And I don't wanna have to be the one buryin' ya.

CARLITO SANCHEZ

I only joined their cartel to save my own ass. I was almost one of these stiff.

RICHARDO MONTY

You forgettin' I was there that day? Your family didn't have money to pay the ransom and you offered to join them before he blew your heart out. You got lucky guy. Most of these brothers are too scared to make that offer.

CARLITO SANCHEZ

Yes I know. But there's got to be a better way of life than this. Always living in fear of dying?

RICHARDO MONTY

That's the way of life you chose when you braved that day tryin' the save your on ass. As much as I feel for you about that, I'm feelin' uncomfortable about this conversation and I'm gonna pretend it never happen, so keep diggin' vato.

60

INT. UNMARKED SUV - NIGHT

60

Texas Rangers JOHN MAHONEY and JAKE HARRIS sit in their vehicle with the headlights off on the dirt road that leads into the Cruz cartel plantation. They watch the cartel through infra-red binoculars.

JOHN MAHONEY

Damn. That's the worst part of this job. Watching victims getting gunned down and not bein' able to do a damn thing about it.

JAKE HARRIS

I know. We better fall back.

Mahoney starts the engine and turns around with the lights off. They slowly head back down the dusty drive.

(on radio)

Shots fired. What's your call?

Ranger headquarters dispatcher Jessica Sims responds.

JESSICA SIMS

(VO)

Orders are to stand down.

JOHN MAHONEY

(on radio)

People are dying in there!

JESSICA SIMS

Understood, but orders are to stand down. I've been instructed to say they're casualties of war. Going in now will blow the mission.

JAKE HARRIS

(on radio)

Copy.

MaHoney and Harris stare at one another.

61

EXT. PRIVATE JET/LOVE FIELD - NIGHT

61

Ranger Hanson and his team pull up in unmarked SUV vehicles. They board the jet as the flight crew helps them with their bags.

62

INT. PRIVATE JET/LOVE FIELD - NIGHT

62

Ranger Hanson is the first to the rear of the jet as he stands and waits for his team to settle in. He takes his seat.

MIKE HANSON

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for making it on such short notice. You've been hand picked for this assignment, and we're racing the clock on it.

Hanson passes out file copies on Jessie and Eddie Cruz. Ranger JILL HART, a gorgeous blonde in her 30'S and top recruit takes her file.

JILL HART

Nice jet?

MIKE HANSON

We are now a part of a task force in implementing deportations of illegal immigrants.

Ranger ED SANDERS, reads his file.

ED SANDERS

Starting with the cartel, how sweet!

MIKE HANSON

Right. And time is of the essence. We've got until daybreak to meet and greet the local authorities in McAllen and get set in place to take these guys down. I've got other teams following Eddie and his men. By the time we land, we'll know more about their operation.

Ranger SAM JENKINS, strives to stay in shape reads his file.

SAM JENKINS

It's about time they let us tackle this problem head on.

Ranger ZACH ENLOE, reads his file.

ZACH ENLOE

These guys are some bad dudes. What are we doing about firepower?

MIKE HANSON

Let's just say we've got plenty of backup. It's enough to fight a war with the cartel. This is just the beginning. They're beefing up both personnel and equipment of all law enforcement branches nationwide. Our mission is to wait until our truck drivers contact us. They're going in for another load of illegal immigrants. They've got Rio's sister. They're going in after her.

ED SANDERS

Wait! Do what? Why are we letting truckers go in like that? It's not logical.

Ranger MARK CANNON, the most egotistical of the bunch tosses his file on a desk.

MARK CANNON

Sanders is right. How can we let them go in without backup? How can we even allow civilians in harms way like that?

MIKE HANSON

That's why we're here. These fools think they can kidnap someone to get their way. Their first mistake was kidnapping the sister of Rio Harrison. He's from the old school of truckers. Without him, we wouldn't have known about this, nor be able to set up this sting. And it's his best way of getting his sister out alive. We're about to break history with the biggest bust on so many levels.

63

EXT. PRIVATE JET - NIGHT

63

EXTREME CLOSE UP OF WINDOW. We see the Rangers finishing up their meeting. Now --

PULLING BACK. We see the jet amongst the clouds in the moonlight.

64 **EXT. INTERSTATE 35 - WACO, TEXAS - NIGHT** 64

Rio's convoy makes their way through town. A State Trooper sits on the shoulder and does nothing, as though the trooper knows who they are and what they're doing.

65 **INT. JEB STONE'S TRUCK - NIGHT** 65

Mind full of thoughts, Jeb reaches for his CB microphone.

JEB STONE

Hey Cowboy, you give any thought to our plan once we're in their compound?

66 **INT. RIO HARRISON TRUCK - NIGHT** 66

Tom grabs the CB microphone.

TOM STANTON

No idea what our plan is yet.

67 **INT. JEB STONE'S TRUCK - NIGHT** 67

JEB STONE

Lovely.

68 **INT. SAMMIE JO'S TRUCK - NIGHT** 68

SAMMIE JO

Well that's not good at all. What the hell?!

69 **INT. TAMMY WEST TRUCK - NIGHT** 69

TAMMY WEST

Yeah, what the hell is right!! We need a game plan guys.

70 **INT. JIM SIMPSON TRUCK - NIGHT** 70

JIM SIMPSON

Relax ladies. I'm sure Rio has a plan.

71 **INT. JOHN STERLING TRUCK - NIGHT** 71

 JOHN STERLING
I'm sure he does, but we could get
killed and tossed in a deep well if
we don't have a plan.

72 **INT. RIO HARRISON TRUCK - NIGHT** 72

 TOM STANTON
Ya'll need to chill. What the hell
is the matter with you guys?
You've never been this nervous
before. Besides, I brought plenty
of guns and ammo.

73 **INT. SAMMIE JO'S TRUCK - NIGHT** 73

 SAMMIE JO
Yeah, well, we're puttin' our lives
on the line this time. I'm only
doin' this cause they got
Stephanie.

74 **INT. RIO HARRISON TRUCK - NIGHT** 74

 TOM STANTON
Lest we forget, we have the law on
our side this time. They will be
there watchin' and ready to move
in.

75 **EXT. BABY CAKES STRIP CLUB - NIGHT** 75

Three buses pull up in front. Eddie and his armed crew step
off the lead bus and motion the women to quickly move inside.

Eddie and his cartel study for anyone who might have followed
them before they enter the club. He motions for the driver
to leave. The driver pulls out and disappears around a
corner.

Moments later Eddie and his cartel exit the club and board
the second bus. He directs the driver of the third bus to
follow them.

76 **EXT. BABY CAKES STRIP CLUB/ACROSS STREET - NIGHT** 76

Rangers Mahoney and Harris pull up in their unmarked SUV.

77 **INT. UNMARKED SUV - NIGHT**

77

JAKE HARRIS
 (to dispatch)
 Need info on plates 666-DEV

They continue to follow the other two buses.

Moments later the radio operator comes back.

JESSICA SIMS
 (VO)
 Plates belong to Jessie Cruz. 1755
 NFD 681 Puerto Rico, Texas.

JAKE HARRIS
 (to dispatch)
 Okay, thank you.
 (to Mahoney)
 This is going to be a long night.

JOHN MAHONEY
 No doubt. Two more stops and we're
 done.

JAKE HARRIS
 Maybe. Maybe not.

78 **EXT. BABY CAKES STRIP CLUB/ACROSS STREET - NIGHT**

78

Rangers Harris and MaHoney pull away from the curb and
 continue to follow the cartel's buses.

79 **EXT. SOUTH DALLAS GENTS CLUB - NIGHT**

79

Two white buses pull into the parking lot. Eddie and his
 crew usher the women from the lead bus into the club.

Eddie motions for the lead bus to leave as he goes inside.
 The driver pulls out and disappears down the street.

Rangers Harris and Mahoney pull over and watch.

Moments later Eddie and his men exit the club and board the
 third bus. The driver pulls out and heads down the street.

Harris and MaHoney continue to follow.

80 **EXT. SOUTH DALLAS STREETS - NIGHT** 80

Harris and MaHoney follow the third bus.

81 **INT. UNMARKED SUV - NIGHT** 81

Harris radios their backup.

JAKE HARRIS
(on radio)
You guys ready to leap frog?

SAM JENKINS
(VO on radio)
You bet. Coming up on your block
now.

JAKE HARRIS
Copy.

POV of Rangers Jenkins and Sanders unmarked SUV turns in
front of them as they continue to follow the bus.

Harris turns right.

82 **EXT. STRIPPERS EAST - NIGHT** 82

The bus pulls onto the lot and stops near Eddie's car.

Rangers Jenkins and Sanders pull over and watch.

Eddie motions the bus driver to leave as he and his cartel
hustle the last of the women and girls inside the club at
gunpoint.

The bus driver pulls out of the parking lot and drives away.

83 **INT. STRIPPERS EAST - NIGHT** 83

Eddie follows his entourage of cartel and the new girls to a
private back room.

84 **INT. STRIPPERS EAST/BACK ROOM - NIGHT** 84

Eddie orders one of his crew to break out some cocaine.

EDDIE CRUZ
Hey homey, break it out!

The cartel member pulls out a bag of white powder and pours it onto a table. He uses a credit card to divide it up in lines.

Now which one of you girls are gonna be first?

Frightened, none of the women or teenage girls move.

Eddie steps over to a young woman in her early twenties, grips her hair and yanks her head down at the table.

How about you?!! Snort that line now!

He hands her a rolled up one hundred dollar bill to snort it with. She slowly takes it from him and snorts the line and hands it back to him.

Now, whose next?

The other women form a line to take their turns. They motion the teenage girls to stay back.

No, no, no. Them too. All of you are doing a line.

The horrified teenage girls get in line behind the women. Eddie snorts a line with a woman and then grabs her hard and takes her into another room and slams the door behind them. She screams.

85

INT. CARTEL WORK FARM - MAIN HOUSE - NIGHT

85

Jose has the illegal immigrant men and boys in the front room surrounded by his armed cartel. He motions to his men to gather their personal things in bags.

JOSE MARTINEZ

Empty your pockets and place your belongings in these bags. You people paid well to make it to the land of the free. Welcome to freedom! You are now hostages. We will be calling each of your families to get ransom on you. In the meantime, you will all work on this farm.

86

EXT. INTERSTATE 35 UPPER DECK - AUSTIN, TEXAS - NIGHT

86

Rio's convoy continues southbound.

87

EXT. DRONE ABOVE CARTEL FARM - NIGHT

87

AERIAL of S.W.A.T. DRONE

88

INT. S.W.A.T. WAGON - NIGHT

88

SWAT officers JAKE HARDISON and JESS WORLEY listen to Jose through ease dropping technology of their drone.

JOSE MARTINEZ

(VO)

If your families cannot pay, you'll
either work here until you die.

JAKE HARDISON

They're in for a rude awakening
come noon tomorrow.

Worley looks at Hardison.

JESS WORLEY

How can they even do that to their
own people?

JAKE HARDISON

You'd be surprised at the evil
lurking in their dark souls.

89

EXT. SAN ANTONIO TEXAS - NIGHT

89

Aerial of Rio's convoy as they roll south on interstate 35
and exit onto the 410 loop.

90

EXT. FLYING J TRUCK STOP/MCALLEN, TX - DAWN

90

Rio's convoy arrives at the truck stop. The parking lot is
practically empty as they all get their rigs parked.

91

INT. RIO'S TRUCK

91

Tom slips the transmission into neutral. Air brakes hissing
on all their rigs as they engage them.

TOM STANTON

Rise and shine Rio, we're here.

Rio unzips the curtains. Champ is wide eyed and ready to get
out as Rio hops in the jump seat and puts his boots on.

RIO HARRISON
 You gonna sleep some while we wait?
 Or you want some coffee?

TOM STANTON
 Aw I'll go in with ya for some
 coffee. I could stand to stretch
 my legs.

RIO HARRISON
 I'll catch up. I'm gonna report in
 with Hanson and walk Champ.

TOM STANTON
 Sure thing.

Tom gets out. Rio grabs his phone and calls Hanson.

92 **INT. HOTEL ROOM/MCALLEN, TX - MORNING** 92

Hanson's cell phone lays on the dresser and it rings. He
 steps from the bathroom in his pajamas and answers.

MIKE HANSON
 Rio, it's good to hear from you.

RIO HARRISON
 (VO)
 Same here Hanson. We're here.

MIKE HANSON
 Good deal. Our team is ready.
 I'll call you when we're in place.

Hanson hangs up.

93 **EXT. FLYING J TRUCK STOP/MCALLEN, TX - MORNING** 93

Rio gets Champ out and walks him.

94 **EXT. MCALLEN FBI BUILDING - MORNING** 94

ESTABLISHING SHOT

95 **INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - MORNING** 95

Ranger Hanson and his team meet with FBI special agents BILL
 REED, HANK SAWYER, SIERRA FONTAINE, WILLIAM TARRANT, and JACK
 FORD.

Hanson shakes hands with Special Agent Reed.

MIKE HANSON

Special agent Reed, thank you for meeting with us. SWAT are in place.

BILL REED

Then they're waiting on us.

SIERRA FONTAINE

Are you folks ready to play?

JILL HART

We're ready! Let's ride.

Both teams quickly exit the room.

96 **EXT. MCALLEN FBI BUILDING - MOMENTS LATER** 96

The teams exit the building and get in black SUV's. They race out of the parking lot.

97 **EXT. HIGHWAY 281 - MORNING** 97

AERIAL OF THE FBI AND RANGERS SUV'S AS THE DRIVE NORTH.

98 **EXT. FLYING J TRUCK STOP PARKING LOT/MCALLEN, TX - MORNING** 98

Rio and Tom exit the store with the other drivers, coffee in hands.

The group split up as they go to their trucks. Rio and Sammie Jo walk together. Tom continues on to Rio's truck.

SAMMIE JO

So, how've you been doin'? You know I've missed you.

RIO HARRISON

Been doin' great. Sis and I finally got the ranch set up. Hired a few drivers. I'm glad they thought to call you in on this.

SAMMIE JO

I am too. When I heard they have Stephanie, I couldn't get here fast enough.

RIO HARRISON

Baby girl, as much as I want you on this team, I need you to be as careful as you can. Tom and I have plenty of firepower, and I want you to carry something in your sleeper.

SAMMIE JO

I'm already locked and loaded my darling. And yes it's tucked away in my sleeper.

A Hispanic thug, Marco Sanchez, with a knife awaits Tom.

Marco attacks Tom at the passenger side door.

TOM STANTON

Aw man!

Tom reacts with a solid blow to Marco's face, spewing his coffee everywhere. He knocks him out cold.

Tom drags him behind the truck.

TOM STANTON

Who would've thunk I'd be a victim of a muggin'? Especially now of all times? And we're haulin' you punks across our borders. Just wait 'til ya'll see what we've got in store for ya!

He laughs as he walks back towards the store. He passes Rio and Sammie Jo embraced with a passionate kiss.

I see you've two finally made up.
It's about time.

He continues to get more coffee. Rio's cell phone rings.

RIO HARRISON

Hanson, how's it goin'?

99

EXT. OUTER BORDERS OF THE JESSIE CRUZ RANCH HOUSE - DAY

99

Ranger Hanson and Special Agent Reed have their personnel spread around the entire perimeter of the Cruz ranch.

MIKE HANSON

(on phone)

Our teams are in place. You have the go ahead.

100

EXT. FLYING J TRUCK STOP PARKING LOT/MCALLEN, TX

100

Sammie Jo kisses Rio again on his cheek and goes to her truck. Rio walks quickly to his truck

RIO HARRISON

(on phone)

Okay Hanson. We're ready to roll.
ETA about thirty minutes. I need
to brief my team with my game plan
before goin' in.

101

INT. RIO'S TRUCK

101

Tom looks at Rio as he climbs in his drivers seat.

TOM STANTON

We might want to think of some kind
of strategy.

RIO HARRISON

You don't think I already have?

Rio grabs his CB microphone.

RIO HARRISON

(on CB)

Everybody got your ears on?

RIO'S TEAM

(on CB VO)

Yep.

RIO HARRISON

(on CB)

Let's meet in the parking lot.

They get out and meet.

RIO HARRISON

Who all is carrying?

Everyone of them raise a hand.

Ok, let's keep 'em in our sleepers.
I'm sure they're gonna be expectin'
us to be carryin', but to gain
their trust, we need to keep 'em in
the sleepers and not on us.
They're not gonna hurt us because
they need us. Just follow my lead.
Ok?

ALL DRIVERS

Ok, 10-4.

RIO HARRISON

Let's go get Stephanie.

102

INT. RIO'S TRUCK

102

Rio glances at Tom as he fires up the engine and grabs a gear. He releases the air brakes and with their hiss, they roll out.

RIO HARRISON

That's all I've been thinkin' about since I learned they had her. We're gonna to be ourselves and do as they say.

TOM STANTON

That's it?! That's all you got?

He reaches back and grabs his bag.

TOM STANTON

I better get our guns ready.

RIO HARRISON

Yeah, let's do that. Just keep 'em in the sleeper Tom. Seriously, it's the only way to gain their trust.

Tom glares at him in wonder.

103

EXT. J. CRUZ RANCH HOUSE - DAY

103

ESTABLISHING AERIAL SHOT

104

INT. J. CRUZ RANCH HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

104

Jessie lays on his bed next to Stephanie. Her hands are bound. Some of his crew stand guard in the room as he watches TV and monitors his security cameras.

Rio and his convoy arrive at the gates. Jessie motions his men to get ready.

JESSIE CRUZ

Well my dear, it looks as if your brother has arrived to rescue you. Let us go give him a warm welcome.

He stands and pulls his gun on her.

JESSIE CRUZ

Get up!

Stephanie moves quickly as she gets up.

STEPHANIE HARRISON

I'm sorry! Please don't hurt me.

JESSIE CRUZ

You won't get hurt as long as you do what I say. I do have to protect my assets, and you my lady, are an asset.

105 **EXT. J. CRUZ RANCH HOUSE - FRONT COURTYARD/DRIVE - DAY** 105

Rio pulls up into the barn next to the house and stops. His team follows.

106 **INT. J. CRUZ BARN - DAY** 106

The hissing is loud as they all engage their air brakes. All fourteen drivers slowly get out. Rio has Champ on his leash.

Jessie's crew searches them for weapons. Jessie approaches them with Stephanie at gun point. Champ looks worried and growls.

JESSIE CRUZ

It's a pleasure to finally meet the legendary Rio Harrison.

RIO HARRISON

Can't say the same about you. The deal is, I take her home. We're doin' as you asked.

JESSIE CRUZ

Oh believe me, I'm a man of my word. She can go home now.

He nudges her to go to him, then motions to his crew to load the trucks. Two cartel members are feeling up Sammie Jo and Tammy by their trucks.

SAMMIE JO
 (loudly)
 Hey jerk!

Jessie fires his gun upward. His men stop.

JESSIE CRUZ
 You kind people come with me. I'll
 give you and quick tour while my
 men load your trucks.

Rio removes the ties off Stephanie's wrists.

TOM STANTON
 (sarcasm)
 This ought to be fun.

They walk with Jessie to the back of Rio's trailer. The cartel rush to load many illegal immigrants, weapons and drugs.

TOM STANTON
 I thought we were just movin'
 people. Weapons and drugs are
 another story.

Rio glances at Tom and then looks at Jessie.

RIO HARRISON
 Yeah, that's going to cost a little
 extra.

Jessie laughs.

JESSIE CRUZ
 Really? Of course the price goes
 up. Money isn't a problem.

RIO HARRISON
 Good.

JESSIE CRUZ
 Good! I knew you and your team
 were the right choice. Shall we go
 inside where it's more comfortable?
 Your other drivers can wait out
 here.

RIO HARRISON
 (to his team)
 First seat drivers, come with us.
 All second seat drivers stay with
 your trucks.

(to Jessie)
 What about Champ? Can I bring him?

JESSIE CRUZ
 Is he house broken?

RIO HARRISON
 Yeah. He'll be a good boy.

JESSIE CRUZ
 Okay, just this one time.

They follow Jessie into the main house.

107 **EXT. OUTER BORDERS OF J. CRUZ RANCH HOUSE - DAY** 107

U.S. Marshals' Task Force MIKE BENDALL, FRANK JACKS, THOMAS GRAHAM and SARAH SNODGRASS along with the Texas Rangers, FBI, ATF, ICE, Sheriff's Department and SWAT get in place.

Mike Bendall and his team watch the compound with binoculars.

MIKE BENDALL
 They're heading in the main house.

108 **INT. J. CRUZ RANCH HOUSE - LIVING ROOM** 108

Lorenzo Guzman armed with an assault rifle stands guard at the front door. Jessie pulls a large envelope from his inside pocket and hands it to Rio.

JESSIE CRUZ
 Please, everyone take a seat.
 Relax. It's goin' take a while
 before they're ready for you. In
 the meantime, I thought you might
 want to count your earnings for
 this shipment.

Rio takes the envelope and pulls out the cash as they all take a seat. He counts it.

RIO HARRISON
 There's got to be well over one
 hundred thousand here.

JESSIE CRUZ
 Two hundred thousand to be exact.
 Divide it however you see fit with
 your team. Every load you haul for
 me pays the same.

TOM STANTON

Rio, that's a lot of cash my friend.

RIO HARRISON

Yeah it is. Take it and divide it amongst everybody.

Jessie takes a seat in his favorite chair.

JESSIE CRUZ

Let me kindly remind all of you. If any of you ever cross me or my brother, not only will we kill all of you, but we'll kill your families too.

RIO HARRISON

Reminder noted.

JESSIE CRUZ

It best be. I think it goes without sayin', you and your team belong to the cartel now. The only way out is by death.

TAMMY WEST

I don't see that as bein' fair at all. I thought we were just helpin' Rio get Stephanie back, and make a few bucks while we was at it.

Rio and the other drivers glare at Tammy.

RIO HARRISON

Tammy I've got this.

TAMMY WEST

Aw hell, don't sweat the small stuff Rio. He's payin' more than plenty. I just don't like havin' our lives threatened, especially throwin' our families in it.

EDDIE CRUZ

You sure you've got a grip on this one Mr. Rio? Or do we need to deal with her now?

Lorenzo crosses over to Tammy and takes point blank aim to her head with his assault rifle.

Champ barks at Lorenzo whilst trying to lunge at him. Rio chokes him back with his leash as Lorenzo quickly aims at Champ.

LORENZO GUZMAN

Control that mut before I fill him full of lead.

Sammy Jo gets up waving her arms to protect Tammy.

The fear of dying fills their faces. Rio regains control of Champ.

SAMMIE JO

No WAIT! She doesn't understand the severity of the situation. She's just a backwoods country girl. She's never heard of the cartel her whole life.

TAMMY WEST

Huh, yeah. What she said.

TOM STANTON

Yeah, dumb as a box of rocks. Shut the hell up and do the job we hired you to do.

RIO HARRISON

Tom, relax.

JESSIE CRUZ

Yeah Tom, relax. I think she's got the message. I think you all have. You're lookin' at the man who'll kill every damn one of you. Including your dog. Lorenzo is third in command under my brother and I.

RIO HARRISON

Mr. Cruz, we'll have a long talk with her later. It's okay, we'll work with you. After all, this is a great deal of money. A lot more than we'd make on any load anywhere else.

JESSIE CRUZ

Just as I promised.

Jessie receives a call.

(on phone)

Yes, okay good.

(to the drivers)
They're ready.

TOM STANTON
That was fast!

JESSIE CRUZ
We're like a bunch of worker ants.
Strength in numbers. Shall we go?

Rio and his team are accompanied by Jessie and Lorenzo back to their trucks.

109

INT. J. CRUZ BARN - DAY

109

Jessie's crew are finished and lock the trailer doors. Cartel member LEON JUAREZ passes the drivers their fake bills of lading.

LEON JUAREZ
These are your fake bills in case you're stopped by DOT.

JESSIE CRUZ
I predicted your response to the extra cargo. Much of your pay is a bonus to you.

RIO HARRISON
Okay. We'll get rollin'. We'll see you in a couple of days.

JESSIE CRUZ
Keep in mind. If you or your team fail me, death becomes you.

RIO HARRISON
We'll keep that in mind. Daylight's burnin'.

Jessie excuses them to proceed. All the drivers get in their trucks and fire up their engines.

110

INT. RIO HARRISON SLEEPER UNIT - DAY

110

Tom helps Stephanie in the passenger side, and then helps Champ get in. Rio gets in his side and fires up the engine.

111 **INT. RIO HARRISON TRUCK - MOMENTS LATER** 111

Rio and Tom wave good-bye to Jessie and his crew as the trucks grab gears and release their air brakes. Hissing of the brakes being disengaged combined with engines revving promotes freedom.

112 **EXT. OUTER BORDERS OF J. CRUZ RANCH HOUSE - DAY** 112

Special Agent Ford looks through his binoculars and reports to Hanson.

JACK FORD
They're coming out of the barn.

Hanson peers through his binoculars.

MIKE HANSON
(on radio)
We wait until they clear the drive
a quarter mile. SWAT moves in first
and we follow.

113 **EXT. J. CRUZ RANCH HOUSE - FRONT COURTYARD/DRIVE - DAY** 113

Rio and his convoy continue past the main house and to the gates as the cartel open them. They slowly roll through them before giving their trucks more fuel.

114 **EXT. NFD 681 PUERTO RICO, TEXAS** 114

Rio and his convoy pull their rigs from the driveway onto NFD 681 northbound. They drive a mile where a SWAT team await. They pull over and stop, air brakes hiss.

The SWAT team opens the trailers. The men and boys are aiming assault rifles at S.W.A.T. Members, but slowly put their guns down.

115 **EXT. J. CRUZ RANCH HOUSE - FRONT COURTYARD/DRIVE - DAY** 115

Three SWAT helicopters with snipers swoop in low and release pepper spray on the cartel members. They circle back and hover at a distance as robots armed with bombs move in and proceed into the house and barn. Tactical armored units move in as they FIRE their guns.

The cartel blindly open fire. S.W.A.T. FIRES back.

Bendall, Hanson and Reed's teams move in and open fire on them. Jessie's cartel return fire with several fifty caliber guns.

Gas masks protect the lawmen and women as they move in for their arrests.

The Secretary of Defense, HARRY KINGSLEY comes over the radios.

HARRY KINGSLEY
Blow their compound to pieces if
you have to.

MIKE BENDALL
(on radio)
Sir, I think you're about to get
your wish.

KABOOM! KABOOM! And the ranch house and barn EXPLODE!

HARRY KINGSLEY
(on radio)
Godspeed.

MIKE BENDALL
(on radio)
Thank you sir.

Gunfire from the cartel slowly ceases as the smoke begins to clear. Dead cartel members lay everywhere.

Fire truck, ambulance, and crime scene units move in.

Hanson and Reed busy themselves arresting the few surviving cartel.

Bendall surveys the ruins of the house and finds Jessie Cruz' lifeless body.

116

EXT. NFD 681 PUERTO RICO, TEXAS - DAY

116

Rio and Tom help SWAT members handle the illegal immigrants as they all witness the mushroom clouds. SWAT member HARLEY JACKSON and his team continue to handle the drugs and arsenal of weapons

HARLEY JACKSON
That's okay sir, we've got this.

They step away.

RIO HARRISON

Agent Jackson, if you and your team are done with us, we'd like to head home. Been a long day.

HARLEY JACKSON

Yes sir, we're done with you here. Have a safe trip home.

RIO HARRISON

Thanks.

TOM STANTON

Yeah thanks!

Rio and Tom go climb into the truck.

117 **INT. RIO HARRISON TRUCK**

117

Stephanie plays with Champ. Rio and Tom look at them. Each with a grin.

STEPHANIE HARRISON

He's so precious!!

She hugs Champ.

Rio fires up the engine, grabs a gear and releases the air brakes.

118 **EXT. RIO HARRISON TRUCK - DAY**

118

CLOSE UP of Rio's steer wheel. The air brakes hiss upon release. Rio rolls forward on NFD 681.

PULL BACK TO REVEAL the entire truck and trailer as it rolls on northbound. Rio's team follow.

119 **INT. RIO'S TRUCK**

119

Stephanie loves on Champ. Tom wipes sweat from his face.

RIO HARRISON

(on CB radio)

Well team, how 'bout that?

120 **INT. JEB STONE'S TRUCK** 120

 JEB STONE
 (on CB radio)
 Almost speechless Rio. Had I not
 been there to see it, I wouldn't
 have believed it. And Tammy, what
 the hell was that little scene all
 about?

121 **INT. JIM SIMPSON TRUCK** 121

 JIM SIMPSON
 (on CB radio)
 I'm with you on that Jeb. What the
 hell Tammy?

122 **INT. SAMMIE JO'S TRUCK** 122

 SAMMIE JO
 (on CB radio)
 No kiddin'! Tammy girlfriend, you
 almost got us killed.

123 **INT. TAMMY WEST TRUCK** 123

 TAMMY WEST
 (on CB radio)
 Color this backwoods chick
 dumbfounded all ya like. We're
 still breathin'. Let's keep our
 stereos tuned to the news stations.
 This has got to be a hot topic.

124 **INT. JOHN STERLING TRUCK** 124

 JOHN STERLING
 (on CB radio)
 No doubt. We just took part in the
 biggest bust in history I bet.

125 **INT. STEVE JACOBS TRUCK** 125

 STEVE JACOBS
 (on CB radio)
 I'm sure we did John. Feels good
 to be a part of history in the
 making.

131 **INT. SAMMIE JO'S TRUCK** 131

SAMMIE JO
 (on CB radio)
 I'm bettin' on me baby! I'll bet
 the whole crew I'll beat 'em back
 for a hundred bucks. Plus you buy
 me dinner Rio.

132 **INT. RIO'S TRUCK** 132

RIO HARRISON
 (on CB radio)
 I'll take that bet.

MONTAGE OF SHOTS as Rio's convoy races.

Sammie Jo's truck races past all of them cutting in front of Rio.

Tammy West continues to follow behind Sammie Jo, and Sammie fuels it harder. Black smoke blows out their smoke stacks the harder they gas on it.

Jeb and the rest of the team jump in line behind them as they all run together in the left lane.

133 **EXT. EDDIE CRUZ CLUBHOUSE - DAY** 133

All law enforcement involved raid the clubhouse and bust the Cruz cartel.

134 **INT. PUSSY CATS LOUNGE - DAY** 134

Lawmen and women raid a bust all Cruz cartel and gather all illegal immigrants for deportation.

135 **INT. BABY CAKES STRIP CLUB - DAY** 135

Lawmen and women raid a bust all Cruz cartel and gather all illegal immigrants for deportation.

136 **INT. SOUTH DALLAS GENTS CLUB - DAY** 136

Lawmen and women raid a bust all Cruz cartel and gather all illegal immigrants for deportation.

137 **INT. STRIPPERS EAST - DAY** 137

Lawmen and women raid a bust all Cruz cartel and gather all illegal immigrants for deportation.

138 **EXT. CARTEL WORK FARM - DAY** 138

Lawmen and women raid a bust all Cruz cartel and gather all illegal immigrants for deportation.

139 **EXT. GLORIA'S RESTAURANT/ROCKWALL - NIGHT** 139

ESTABLISHING SHOT

140 **INT. GLORIA'S RESTAURANT/ROCKWALL** 140

Rio, Sammie Jo and the team are seated at table overlooking Lake Ray Hubbard.

RIO HARRISON

Baby doll, you won the race. You know I've waited forever for this moment?

SAMMIE JO

What moment is that?

RIO HARRISON

To be here, with you, in this restaurant at a table like this overlooking the lake.

SAMMIE JO

You have?

Beth tears up.

BETH STANTON

(to Tom)

Oh honey I'm going to cry.

Tom kisses Beth on her cheek.

RIO HARRISON

Yes. I've known from the moment I first saw you I wanted you. It's so funny too. All those drivers hoverin' over you when we first met. And I was like, not this kid.

SAMMIE JO

I noticed?

RIO HARRISON

You did?

SAMMIE JO

Of course. You don't think a lady notices a man like that over all the men drooling over her? That's why I caught you on lunch break to ask if we could team during that project.

RIO HARRISON

Aw, well I'm flattered. And I found out real quick why too.

Sammie Jo looks at Rio baffled.

Because baby, you couldn't back a trailer to save your life.

The entire crew laughs.

She slaps his shoulder in jest.

SAMMIE JO

I can't help it cause the college I went to wouldn't teach us right. That's why you caught my eye. And I didn't want all those guys up my shorts.

RIO HARRISON

(laughing)

Well I reckon a lady would know to walk away from men like that, and you did. You walked into my life that day.

SAMMIE JO

Rio, you taught me a lot during the time we teamed together. But my brother was sick. I had to go.

RIO HARRISON

I know baby girl. What matters now is you've survived as I have, and here we are, together again.

They sip their champagne as the crew giggles.

SAMMIE JO

I owe a world of thanks for Jeb
calling me in. He's the only one
we go back with for so long.

Rio makes a toast to Jeb.

RIO HARRISON

Here's to Jeb, our brother. If it
weren't for him, Sammie and I
would've never met.

The team drinks to his toast.

Rio pulls out a beautiful diamond ring in a gorgeous jewelry
box.

Beth begins to cry, and Tom holds her. Rio kneels from his
seat onto one knee and opens the box exposing a beautiful
diamond ring.

RIO HARRISON

Sammie Jo, will you marry me? I
don't want to lose you again.

Sammie Jo tears up.

SAMMIE JO

Yes.

Rio slides the ring on her finger. The crew and many other
restaurant patrons applaud. A band Rio hired begins to play
a romantic rock ballad.

Rio stands her up and dances with her. His crew and other
patrons join in the dance.

RIO HARRISON

It's been many years since I've
danced. And it was with you.

SAMMIE JO

Feels now like it did then my love.
You're still just as smooth.

Rio pauses and kisses her.

FADE TO BLACK.

Music of rock ballad continues.

ROLL TEXT

Jessie Cruz and his entire cartel died during the battle to over throw their cartel in south Texas.

Eddie Cruz and all the remaining cartel were captured and face the death penalty in Texas.

Many bodies were discovered buried at their work farm in Dallas, and at their compound in McAllen Texas.

All surviving illegal immigrants were deported back to Mexico.

THE END

Roll end credits.

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