

RUNAWAY

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Stan Bannerman is a white police officer convicted and sent to prison for killing Tamray Johnson (black 15) from day one Stan is attacked and brutally beaten and is cared for by the prison doctor (black, Morgan Freeman) Stan falls into a parallel universe where he awakes as a white slave to black masters.

Twilight Zone meets the Wizard of OZ

OPENING SCENE

INT/DAY/ In Bed

Present Day 2022

Police officer (white male 38) Stan Bannerman is laying on his bed looking up towards the ceiling, the television is on reporting the news, awards the bedside is Stan's police Badge and an empty bottle of whisky.

NEWS REPORTER ON TV

Today is the trial of officer Bannerman, after a lengthy court case where Bannerman had shot 16 year old Tamray Johnson on her way home after a study night the officer claimed that Tamray was ignoring his instructions when in fact she could not hear the officer due to having headphones on, Tamray was shot seven times and died instantly, here is the body cam footage from this fatal accident

Stan listens to the body cam footage while they play it on the television

Fade out

EXT/DAY/The courthouse

A car pulls up outside of a courthouse where reporters and black protesters are shouting abuse and calling out the police as they are waiting for Stan, the car is met by Stan's lawyer and police officers to help Stan back into court

LAWYER

STAN! Come on let's get you inside.

Stan is rushed into the court.

The court room is packed with one side filled with police officers sitting behind Stan and on the other side the family of Tamray with reporters and the black community,

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everybody stands when the judge (white) comes in.

JUDGE

Please be seated, have the jury
come to a verdict

JURY MEMBER

Yes your honour

The member of jury hands the judge a piece of paper, the judge looks at the Jury then the defendant, Stan and his lawyer both rise to hear the verdict.

LAWYER

Don't worry we got this.

JUDGE

In the case of Tamray Johnson the court finds Officer Stan Bannerman Guilty of first degree murder and a sentence of a minimum of 20 years with no parole

The court erupts with cheers and celebration from the black/reporters side of the court, all the police officers behind Stan are still, Stan is in shock and falls back to his seat, his lawyer looks at the judge in shock and then to the prosecutors

LAWYER

Well done councillor

PROSECUTOR

Is it, I was going for the death
penalty

Stan is lead away by the court house officers and put onto a bus transported to prison.

The judge is giving a statement outside of the courthouse to the media

JUDGE

The sentence today that was given
was fair, a life of a child was
taken and that life cannot be given
(MORE)

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JUDGE (CONT'D)

back, this city and the rest of America must open their eyes and see that this behaviour from our police force must not continue, protect and serve is the slogan that is enforced yet all I see in my courthouse is excuses for neglecting the duties you signed up for. I've said it before and I will say it again, nobody is above the law and murder is murder whatever side of the badge you stand on and if you cannot acknowledge this, then you don't deserve the badge.

The judge exits the courthouse with reporters still trying to get answers.

Cut

PRISON.

INT/DAY/PRISON

Stan is in chains heading towards a prison, the bus stops and all the convicts exit the bus and line up, one of the prison guards readies his shot gun (black officer) another officer (white) comes from a side gate to meet the prisoners.

PRISON OFFICER

Well well it looks like we have some returning guests and some new celebrity ones, My Name is Sergeant Oliver in these facilities you will respect and listen to the officers, you will not harm/abuse or threaten my officers, any violation to my staff will result in further punishment, respect goes both ways, I don't care what you have done I am not interests in your innocence, you are here for a reason, you failed in society. Between here and your cell you will move as one and follow the instructions to the

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PRISON OFFICER (CONT'D)

letter, there's no need to feel shy or special, we have seen it all before, internal and external (stands in front of STAN and looks at him with a smile) OK! Let's get you settled in.

GUARD 2

OK! Form a line and lets move out, first stop is registration

The prisoners are taken to a location and are told to strip naked, STAN is trying to keep calm and not look at anyone as the guards give instructions

GUARD 3

Turn around, bend over, spread your cheeks, turn back and lift up your sacks, run your fingers through your hair, open your mouths

The prisoners are photographed, more so those with tattoos and then taken to the showers

GUARD 2

You have 3 minutes, lather up, rinse and get out

While in the shower some of the inmates are looking at STAN

They collect their clothes and head for the mess hall, Stan approaches and can hear the talking but as soon as he enters the hall the room goes quiet, Stan glances around the room to see the different groups, the White Arien turn their backs, the blacks are all staring with anger in their eyes and the Latino's like wise as one runs a thumb across his throat to symbolise death, Stan takes his tray and gets served his food, Stan sits alone, he closes his eyes and exhales strongly, as he opens his eyes the chattering restarts, Stan is alone.

The prisoners are escorted to their cells

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GUARD 3
Prisoner 9691431 cell 78

Stan stands in front of the cell door, he looks to his right and sees the whole floor looking in his direction, suddenly the guard calls out.

GUARD 3
LOCKDOWN!

All the inmates step into their cell, STAN walks in and looks at his room as he hears the closing of the cells, Stan turns around and sees that his cell door has closed, suddenly the doorway is blocked by three black men who walk in and attack STAN pulverising him until unconscious, as they leave Sergeant Officer steps in and looks into the cell.

Fade out

THE DOCTOR

INT/DAY/ Prison hospital

Stan is wrapped up and cuffed to a bed, he is coming out of unconsciousness and looks up at a blurred image in a white coat. (Doctor played by Morgan Freeman)

DOCTOR
How is he?

NURSE
Two broken ribs, internal bleeding,
fractured collarbone, concussion,
burst vessels in his left eye,
three teeth missing and this is
just day one.

DOCTOR
Well there isn't anything that
won't heal

(CONTINUED)

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NURSE

Yes, but then he will be back here once he does, not that I'll shed a tear.

DOCTOR

Nurse, I don't like it as much as you do but our job is to keep them alive so that they can do their time, we're not here to judge, no matter the crime. Remember the oath you took.

NURSE

I know doctor, sorry.

DOCTOR

Thats ok, it's understandable.

Stan's eyes are focused and looks up at the doctor, the doctor looks back

STAN

Thank you doctor

The doctor doesn't respond, just stares then walks off

CUT

The nurse helps Stan walk to the toilet, Stan is moving slow and in pain with each step, he goes into the urinal and urinates blood, Stan is taking pain killers and antibiotics given to him by another nurse, Stan lays down to sleep, as he closes his eyes he sees a prisoner mopping a floor, they make eye contact (black, Michael Kenneth Williams) Stan slowly closes his eyes and sleeps.

Fade in

Stan is in a wheel chair sitting in the doctors office, there is a guard standing outside, the Doctor is looking at Stan's results, then he closes the file.

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STAN

How am I doing doctor?

DOCTOR

I'll be honest, you still have a hairline fracture on your ribs, the bruises will heal, my biggest fear is that you will be back before you can heal.

STAN

Well at least I've stopped pissing blood. Can I ask you something, why are you even helping me? Others would give a shit.

DOCTOR

Oh I get it, because I'm black I should let you face your fate for what you did to that young girl, well sorry to disappoint you, yes I'm angry but I'm also a doctor and I took an oath to value your life and save no matter the colour, so I put my feelings aside and do my job to the best of my ability, sound familiar to you?

STAN

I'll be honest with you, I'm scared, I don't think I'm going to make it in here.

DOCTOR

Do you want my advice

STAN

Yeah

DOCTOR

I don't have any

The doctor looks at the prison guard to signal him that they are done and that Stan can go back to the cell block.

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CONTINUED:

Stan is being escorted passed the other cells where abuse and death threats are being thrown from all directions

GUARD 2

Here we are, home sweet home

Stan walks into his cell, the blood stain is still on the floor

GUARD 2

Lockdown

Stan watches the cell doors close this time and breathes a sigh of relief, Stan crawls onto his bunk and closes his eyes.

Fade out

CLEANING SHIFT

EXT/DAY/The Yard

Stan is walking the yard, he is sitting on the bench watching everyone exercise, play basketball suddenly a group of white guy start approaching, Stan notices the tattoos and sees that they are Neo Nazi's, they stand in front of Stan, one of them steps forward.

N/NAZI LEAD

I see your back on your feet, thats good, now, I was just discussing with my brothers here about you, you see, we're in a bit of a situation, see, we applaud you for your services, I mean who's best to kill these niggers but you boys in blue, BUT! You are or were a cop and we cant have that among us so the best thing I can do is tell you this, watch everyone, they all want a piece of you

STAN

Tell me something I don't know

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NAZI LEAD

Well we was contracted to do it but we politely declined on the fact that despite you being an officer we can respect what you did.

STAN

Who contracted it?

NAZI LEAD

Probably every nigger in the state, there's no way out and no where to run, here. (Hands him a shank) take out as many more niggers as you can brother.

The Neo Nazi smiles and walks away leaving Stan to look down at the shank he was just handed, Stan places the shank onto the bench and walks away.

CUT TO STAN IN HIS CELL

Stan is in his cell reading a bible in his cell when a guard hits the cell with his stick making Stan jump with fear again, Stan looks at the Guard.

GUARD 4

Cleaning duty, lets go

Stan is mopping the mess hall nervously looking around nervously as he does, after a while the nervousness went and Stan is happy to mop by himself as he sings, standing behind him is the cleaner (holding a mop) who was mopping the floor when he was in the prison hospital, Stan turns around surprised and tenses up as he stares at the other man (black, Michael Kenneth Williams)

STAN

Hey, are you here to clean to?

ERROL

Well I ain't here to hear you sing

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STAN

I.... Yeah ok

ERROL

I'll be over here. Mopping, after
the mess we have the kitchen to do.

STAN

Whats your name

ERROL

Errol

STAN

I'm Stan

ERROL

Yeah I know

STAN

(Mutters to himself) of course you
do

Stan and Errol begin to mop the floor, Stan doesn't sing anymore but starts to Hum quietly to himself, they start mopping the kitchen together, Stan is tired and takes a breather as Errol finishes up

STAN

Can I ask you something

ERROL

Go ahead

STAN

I was just thinking earlier if you
was here to kill me but then I
thought you're not the type

ERROL

No, what makes you think that

STAN

Well you wouldn't kill someone
after just cleaning the floor,
maybe before then you wouldn't have
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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STAN (CONT'D)
to clean the floor tonight

ERROL
I'm failing to see the question or
do you think I'm here to make
friends

STAN
I don't think you're here to make
friends, I was going to ask you
what you was in for? But it's
irrelevant, we're all here now.

ERROL
Thats right, we're all slaves to
the system now, listen we have a
some time left, you want an egg?

STAN
Sure

Errol puts two eggs into a pot and lets it boil, Errol and
Stan begin to converse, Stan notices a birth mark on his
forearm

ERROL
What was that song you was humming,
I cant get that out of my head ever
since you started

STAN
That my good man is the sound of BB
king, Three O'clock blues, It was
the last song I heard before coming
in here

ERROL
So you like blues music

STAN
Yeah I like all music, anything
with a story in it, so what's your
story?

(CONTINUED)

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ERROL

I'm here for doing what most men would do when your family is threatened, see my brother had a drug use problem, we was a fiend, always on the hustle to get that money to buy drugs, you see his problem was that he couldn't handle pain, the pain of loosing his family, his wife and child were killed in a hit and run and the driver was never found, anyway drugs was his escape but it wasn't enough, he didn't want help, he didn't want to live anymore and no matter how much I tried to convince or try to help him the more he would push away, anyway I had to get back to base.

STAN

You're in the military

ERROL

Was, and thats when my brother needed me the most. He got court breaking and entering a house, the house owner was a cop, and killed him, even though my brother was in the wrong he didn't deserve to die that way anyway, in the military we learn control, especially under pressure, not everything leads to the trigger, so I found the person who shot and killed my brother and a did the same to him and here we are.

Errol turns to the eggs as they are boiled, he runs it under some cold water and hands the egg to Stan

ERROL

Now I don't know if what you did was intentional or not thats between you and god, all I would say to you is watch your front and
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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ERROL (CONT'D)
back, see you around.

Errol walks off humming the same song that Stan was humming leaving Stan alone in the kitchen looking at the egg.

Stan makes his way back to his cell, as he approaches his cell a group of men step out, its one of the Neo Nazi's holding the shank that they gave to Stan

NAZI-2
I had a change of heart

Stan turns to run but runs into a blade held by another member of the Neo Nazi, the two men stand over Stan continuously stabbing him with a shank leaving Stan to bleed out, Stan is a bloody mess slowly fading as his eyes glazing over.

Cut

Stan is coming in and out of consciousness as he hears voices over him (voices of the prison staff)

" They got him, oh Jesus they got him " - 1st male voice

" Get him up on the table " - 2nd male voice

" Oh lord" - female voice

Fade out.

AWAKENING 1620

INT/DAY/The Plantation 1620

Stan slowly opens his eyes and sees the wooden high beams above him, the air is different, fresh and Stan can hear the sounds of people working close by, Stan turns his head and looks through a wooden door where the sun is piercing through from, Stan sits up and looks at his wounds but nothing is there, not a mark, Stan gets to his feet and slowly approaches the door.

The door bursts open and two Black men grab Stan a pull him out of the cabin, Stan looks around to see that he is on a farm/Plantation and all the people working in the field are

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white, Stan looks up and the two black men who are dragging him and starts to plead

STAN

Hey, where am I?, let go of me,

The men stop, one of them turns and punches Stan in the mouth and grabs him by the throat

SHAKA

Look here Nigger/boy, you don't speak until you are spoken to or I will personally cut out your fucking tongue, I don't know who you are and what you are doing here, but we will find that all out in a moment, in the mean time shut the fuck up

STAN

I want to see the warden, Take me there now.

The other Black man hits Stan in the back of the head with a pistol and is knocked out, Stan is dragged to the big house.

SHAKA

Well lets go see the warden
(laughs)

Stan is on the porch unconscious, around him is the plantation owner Acheampong (Morgan Freeman) with his men (black) his house boy (white) and white servants.

SKAKA

Good Morning Warden

ACHEAMPONG

Warden, who is that?

SHAKA

Apparently thats you boss, this BOY starts screaming, take me to the warden. Where do you think he came from?

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ACHEAMPONG

(Laughs) Lets find out, Wake this
boy up

Cliff (white servant) pours a jug of water over Stan (laying on the floor) bringing him conscious again, Stan looks up to see the Doctor sitting in a chair smoking a cigar all dressed up as a man of importance

STAN

Thank god Doc, it's good to see you

Everyone looks around confused to what Stan is talking about as Stan props himself up with a look of relief, Acheampong looks down at Stan

ACHEAMPONG

Boy! I don't know who you are or what you are doing on my plantation but I can assure you boy, I'm not a doctor, my name is Acheampong but to you boy you call me Sir whilst in my presence, now let's see who you belong to.

Stan is dragged up and a gun is aimed at his face

MAN 1

Blink and it will be your last

Stan is dragged over to a pole and tied to it

SHAKA

See if he has any markings

Man 1 pulls out a knife and cuts open the shirt of Stan's back and is stripped naked for all to see as Shaka inspects him.

SHAKA

Nothing but a little dick

ACHEAMPONG

Well lets stake a claim then

(CONTINUED)

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STAN

Wait! I really don't know what's going on here

SHAKA

Oh! Who are you raising your voice too? Let me enlighten you, you are a slave, you belong to Master Acheampong, you will work and die here, don't worry Master treats everyone right as long as you are right, any trouble then you have the pleasure of dealing with me, run! Then thats a whole other story.

As Shaka is speaking to Stan while a branding iron is being heated up with a symbol of a arrow head forming the letter A on it

MAN 1

Boss you want to do this one?

ACHEAMPONG

Why not

Acheampong gets up from his chair and makes his way from the porch towards a strung up Stan, he takes the hot branding iron from the fire and brings it over to Stan, Stan looks in fear and begins to urinate in fear and trembles

STAN

Please don't! I beg you, I don't know what's going on, just send me back to my cell

ACHEAMPONG

I'll tell you what, when you wake up thats where you will be.

Acheampong brands Stan and in pain Stan's scream fades out as he passes out still hanging by the post

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ACHEAMPONG

Folu cut him down, and get him to work.

FOLU

Yes sir

ACHEAMPONG

Keep an eye on him, I'm going into town.

Cliff smiles and rushes into the house to get his master his going to town attire. As Acheampong steps back onto the porch one of the white servants pours him a cool glass of lemonade, Acheampong looks over his plantation at his white slaves.

ACHEAMPONG

It's going to be a hot day

Folu and another man cut down Stan and drag Stan to the slave houses.

Cut.

NEW SLAVE

INT/DAY/ Slaves housing

Stan opens his eyes gasping for air as he can feel a cool ointment being applied onto his burn wound, a female voice speaks to him

ELLA

Keep still, the ointment will help, don't worry it will be ok, where are you from?

STAN

Sacramento originally

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELLA

I don't know where that is but you
have travelled a long way in the
wrong direction

STAN

What prison is this, the last thing
I remember was being attacked and
left for dead, they just kept
stabbing me, and.

The female looks confused as there is no marks on him

ELLA

But there is nothing on you

Stan slowly sits up and looks down at his body and sees that
his body is in tact, Stan closes his eyes and is thinking

STAN

Ok, I must be in a coma or
something, but then if I was how
would I know, this isn't real, this
cant be real, I'm part of some
experiment, where am I and what
year is this?

ELLA

You're in the south, this is New
Texas

STAN

New Texas, what happened to just
Texas

ELLA

Your making me scared Mr

STAN

Sorry, I don't mean to make you
scared, I'm scared, its like I've
just woken up, okay, Whats your
name?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ELLA

Ella

STAN

Ella my names Stan, what year is this?

ELLA

2022

STAN

2022, Ok, OK! So, 2022 the world is round and I am in Texas

ELLA

New Texas

STAN

Right, New Texas, and the Doc I mean Acheampo is in charge.

ELLA

Master Acheampong

STAN

Master, what the fuck is that all about? Why is he Master

ELLA

Because he owns this plantation, he owns us

STAN

OWNS US! Plantation, What like slaves

ELLA

Yes, thats what we are, were all slaves here

Stan looks as Ella lifts up here shirt and shows a scar across her stomach and a branding mark

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STAN

What the fuck, what happened to you.

ELLA

Thats where they cut my baby out.

Stan looks around for the baby

STAN

Where is your child now

ELLA

They killed it, he was a boy, they kill most of the new babies if you have a boy first.

STAN

I got to get the fuck out of here, this is crazy, ok think, think Stan for fucks sake, ok OKAY, we need to get out of here, north, we can go north

ELLA

WE! No, I cant leave. This is where I live

STAN

WHAT! We need to leave, this isn't right, we cant be slaves

ELLA

This place is good, as long as you work hard Master looks after us, treats us right and we have a good life here, I know of others in different places they ain't so lucky like us. Don't cause us trouble here.

STAN

Tell me something Ella has anyone ever left this place, like runaway.

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CONTINUED:

ELLA

Nobody runs, not from here, anyway
you wouldn't get far anyway

STAN

No! Why's that?

ELLA

When a slave runs, the catcher is
sent for and when he catches you
and you are returned back they will
do things to you that will make you
pray for death.

STAN

Listen Ella I need to leave this
place, this isn't right, this cant
be real.

ELLA

Why, this is how it is, how it's
always been.

STAN

No it hasn't, it wasn't like this
at all, it was the other way
around.

ELLA

What do you mean?

STAN

I cant explain it now, but you have
to believe me.

Suddenly the door opens and FOLU is standing there with is
gun in hand, next to him is a muscular white man

FOLU

Hey boy, this is Daniel he will
show you what to do, make sure you
do it and there won't be any
trouble, Daniel, he's all yours

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DANIEL

Yes boss!

Stan watches Folu walk away and then looks at Daniel, Daniel looks at Ella and smiles, Ella smiles back, then Daniel looks at Stan

DANIEL

Miss Ella

ELLA

Daniel

STAN

Hi! Daniel, listen I need your help

ELLA

Daniel this is Stan, he's a runaway

DANIEL

RUNAWAY! No, don't do that, don't be bringing trouble to us, what we have here is good, out there you won't make it, whatever you think you need to do, don't do it.

STAN

How can you stay here, be like this, I'm confused, how did things get turned around

ELLA

How do you mean?

STAN

How did we become slaves

Daniel and Ella look at each other confused at Stan's comment

DANIEL

Come with me

Daniel walks out and Stan follows, Daniel takes Stan around the plantation where other white slaves are ploughing, picking cotton, attending to animals, cooking, doing

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

construction.

DANIEL

I don't know where you have come from, or where you have been, but I can only tell you what I know, my past which is the similar story of those you see around you, The Africans and the Chinese were pioneers of this world, they were advanced in map reading, innovation, masonry. And things beyond our imagination, as you can imagine when they came over to the America's they brought riches and culture with them, places like Brazil thrive and have grown, they saw America as an extension of Africa but they needed the man power to help build, the tribal kings all joined and sent their first borns out to capture those in the European countries and brought them here and here we are, the world isn't what you think it is.

STAN

This is insane, this, what you are saying is, black people are the dominant race

DANIEL

They were always the dominant race

STAN

But they're just Niggers how the fuck did niggers get this organised

DANIEL

I don't understand, why do you call them Niggers, thats what we are

STAN

WHAT! What do you mean?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DANIEL

Niggers, thats what we call non conforming slaves, but you have to understand we do not use that word, we're not niggers, it's not even a real word anyway. Here we are taught the old ways, our master insists that we learn to read and write, use our minds to create, think of ways to better ourselves, grow and live of the land

STAN

But under his rule, his law. Cant you see what's wrong with that

DANIEL

There are rules and laws for everyone and everything, if you break them, you have to be punished. Isn't that the law of the world?

STAN

It might be, but no man should own another human being

DANIEL

And that is your belief, however, you are owned by master Acheampong so I suggest you follow the rules and don't bring us trouble

STAN

Let me ask you something? Has anyone ever left this place

DANIEL

Two people, One was caught and was made a cripple, they cut off his feet to prevent others from running.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STAN

And the other one?

DANIEL

Nobody knows, maybe he made it, maybe he died out there, if another master finds you they could kill you especially if you don't have permission to leave the plantation, anyway if I was you I would get that out of your mind, here is good, like I said it could be worst out there

STAN

What could be worst than freedom

DANIEL

Well here you are, this is where you will stay, food will be brought over to you later, we get up early here, tomorrow we begin ploughing so get some sleep

Stan looks at the small make shift hut as Daniel walks away.

Fade out.

HEAT OF THE NIGHT

INT/NIGHT/ The town

Master Achempong rides into town smoking his cigar and looks around the town before walking into the BLACK CAT bar, he sees a lot of the black business around him with luxury and good living, Acheampong enter the Black cat establishment and is greeted by a white waiter and seen to a chair

WAITER

Good evening sir, can I get you a drink

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ACHEAMPONG

Uncle Nearest

WAITER

Very good sir

Acheampong sees a group of his peers all sitting around smoking cigars and drinking whiskey in high leather chairs, the surroundings are beautiful with red walls and dark furniture.

ACHEAMPONG

Gentlemen

ABASI

Well look who decided to leave the plantation today, you must learn to enjoy life Acheampong, you spend so much time there I'd think you was a slave

Everyone laughs

ACHEAMPONG

Well we all cant be like you.

ABASI

Of course not, I'm here as an inspiration.

BADU

You are so inspiring they are making a statue for you, you have brought so much wealth to New Texas

GABRA

Unlike you Badu you just bring population, how many slaves have you impregnated now

ACHEAMPONG

Now Now GABRA its not his fault he cant control himself

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GABRA

They are my slaves to fuck and they love to fuck me, anyway I'm making an army, anyway what is this I hear that you found someone new Acheampong.

ACHEAMPONG

The strangest of things, a slave, unmarked landed on my doorstep, like he fell from the sky

ABASI

Are you saying the almighty Allah is now delivering slaves to us, how did you pray for this?

ACHEAMPONG

No No thats not what I'm saying, the thing is I cant even remember how he arrived, it was like he was just there

GABRA

What did he look like?

ACHEAMPONG

He looked strong, no markings, not even a scratch, he had a look in his eyes like disbelief but like he knew me, called me a doctor

BADU

A doctor, did he hit his head?

GABRA

Lucky he never called you the king

ABASI

Speaking of which Simba will be here soon, I want you two to settle your differences this friction between you two must end, we are business men not savages

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CONTINUED:

ACHEAMPONG

Thank you for bringing us together,
I hope we can settle our difference

GABRA

Even though he is as stubborn as a
mule he is my cousin first, my vote
has to lay with him, I hope you
understand.

ACHEAMPONG

Of course my brother, let's hope
peace is formed.

Simba enters the establishment, all eyes are on him as he
controls the a large proportion of the business in the town,
Simba walks over to the group, his coat is taken by a white
waiter and Simba sits down amongst the group

SIMBA

Brothers, Acheampong

ACHEAMPONG

Simba

GABRA

Before we dive into politics, I
would like to tell you all
something, something that was
taught to me from my elder. If you
want to go fast, go alone, if you
want to go far, go together. We are
about growth and generational
wealth, let us not fall short of
our vision here gentlemen.

ACHEAMPONG

Very well said, let me begin.
Simba, I know we don't see eye to
eye on how we treat our workers,
your rule of law and order might
work for you where I believe a
happy worker is a better worker,
now I know you believe its rainbows
and sunshine on my land but we
produce so much, and the skill of
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ACHEAMPONG (CONT'D)

my tradesmen are second to none, we helped build half of this town, but what I really don't understand is this, do you have a problem with my treatment of my workers or do you have a problem with me, we need to sort this out once and for all.

SIMBA

I don't understand why you deem it a priority that a slave should read or write, it teaches them to be self sufficient, and once a slave starts thinking then they get ideas and start acting, in Africa this would not be tolerated, a slave remains a slave until their time is up, as for you, well, what you did to my sister was disrespectful, you caused shame unto her, this I cannot forgive.

ACHEAMPONG

Your sister did not love me, she loved her liberation so I gave it to her, you speak of tradition and old ways, she did not want that, she wanted the new way, isn't this why we are here, to prosper, the slaves in Africa were treated better than the slaves here, how many slaves back home are you still supporting even when retired, you as well Babu how many, here we use them willingly, I educated them for a reason, so that they have purpose, and when we have purpose we become more productive, they will never be free like you and I, so allow them to be free in the mind while they work until they cannot anymore.

GABRA

You both have valid points, Simba can we have peace, your sister is a grown woman now, doesn't she even
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GABRA (CONT'D)

have a new man in her life (others
smirk)

SIMBA

Thats not the point

GABRA

No its not

ACHEAMPONG

Simba, my brother, I call you my
brother because I love you like my
brother, we came over together, we
developed together, I know you
wanted me to marry your sister so
that we can be a family, a stronger
bloodline, but even so this hasn't
happened, WE! Are still brothers,
so let us act like brothers.

Acheampong pours Simba a drink and passes it to him,
everyone looks in anticipation

SIMBA

You and your speeches, I guess when
I die you will be the one that
gives my Eulogue

ACHEAMPONG

Do you plan on leaving us?

SIMBA

We all die one day

ACHEAMPONG

Only in the flesh

Simba takes the glass and everyone is happy, the group drink
and smoke cigars, the white waiters all look at each other
as if up to something.

CUT TO THE MORNING

Acheampong slowly walks out of the BLACK CAT and looks
towards the rising sun and opens out his arms

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ACHEAMPONG

Thank you for another day.

Fade out.

CURIOSITY

INT/DAY/The Big House

Cliff (white head servant) is up early, he goes down to the kitchens and puts on a pot of coffee as it is preparing he looks out of the window and sees Stan looking out onto the fields

CLIFF

What is he doing now?

Stan is looking out into different directions praying

STAN

Lord, where do I begin, I don't know where I am or why I've been sent here, I know my sins and what I am guilty for, I don't know if this is a test or am I in hell, if this is a test I pray I have the strength to see it through, amen.

Stan looks up and sees Acheampong's truck speeding towards the big house, Cliff also sees it and looks at the coffee.

Acheampong makes his way to his house, Cliff is there with a coffee

CLIFF

Good Morning Sir

ACHEAMPONG

Good morning Cliff

CLIFF

Will you be having a morning nap sir or shall I prepare a bath for you

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ACHEAMPONG

No, I think today I will take a look around, tell me how is the new arrival settling in

CLIFF

Well he was up this morning very early, but I don't know what he was doing

ACHEAMPONG

Yes, I saw that, he was praying, and a man that prays is a man with faith and hope that leads to ideas which ends up with action, make sure he knows and understands how things work out here

CLIFF

I will get word to Daniel

ACHEAMPONG

Bring Daniel to the house, I need to speak with him

CLIFF

Yes sir

Acheampong looks out into the fields and watches Stan, Stan turns to look at the house and sees Acheampong looking at him, one of the white maids comes to the porch, Cliff turns to her

CLIFF

Fix master his breakfast

The maid acknowledges and goes off

The sun is high and Acheampong is having his breakfast, Shaka is in the field watching the workers, Folu is with another lot who are chopping trees, Daniel and Stan are with the loggers.

Stan and Daniel are chopping away trees, STAN isn't used to doing manual work and his hands start to blister up, Shaka notices that Stan isn't pulling his weight and Daniel is

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

doing all the work

SKAKA

Hey Boy, pull your weight

STAN

Sorry

SHAKA

Sorry What

STAN

What?

Daniel stops and looks in surprise, Shaka is shocked at the audacity of Stan, as smiles maliciously at him

SHAKA

Did you just WHAT ME? Do You want to die boy?

STAN

No

DANIEL

Boss, I think he was confused boss, this one isn't right in the head boss,

SHAKA

I think your right, Well, since he isn't right in the head maybe he should sit today out and you do all of his work, or I can put him right so that you can continue

Shaka pulls out his bow knife

DANIEL

You're right boss, let him sit it out, he'd only slow me down anyway, I'll do the work boss, i'll get it all done.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Shaka slowly puts his knife back in it's sheath and stares at Daniel, Daniel looks at Stan then begins working, chopping and stacking wood.

Acheampong and Folu are walking around the plantation grounds with Cliff following behind, Acheampong looks at Cliff

ACHEAMPONG

Tell me again what happened?

CLIFF

Little Jody and Lucy have been stealing eggs and selling them making a nice little earner in town

ACHEAMPONG

Where is little Jody now

CLIFF

I locked her in the cellar

CUT TO CLIFF AND JODY

Jody is sitting on the floor with a cut lip from where Cliff has struck her, she looks up at him

CLIFF

Are you trying to get my hand chopped off, how can you steal from and expect not to get caught?

JODY

I was hungry, it wasn't stealing, it was left on the plate when we was clearing up

CLIFF

OH! Well that changes everything doesn't it, my mistake, I didn't know stealing was only seen one way (strikes her again) WHILE I'M HERE UNDER THIS ROOF YOU WILL NOT TAKE UNLESS I SAY SO DO YOU UNDERSTAND!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JODY

Yes, yes, I'm sorry ! (Begging pleading)

CLIFF

So thats how you and your sister have been getting fat, stealing food from the house, what do you do, sell it to the others, make some money do you. I've noticed that we've been having to buy more supplies in town, it makes sense now, you steal, Master buys more for you to steal more

JODY

No, No thats not it, I just took an egg

CLIFF

Thats how it starts, first the egg, then the chicken. Now, you wait here until Master comes for you.

Cliff slams the door shut on the dark damp room leaving Jody bloodied and in tears.

Fade out

Fade in

The cellar door slowly opens and Jody is grabbed and dragged outside, Jody sees her sister Lucy already tied up over a barrel naked with her back dripping with blood where she has been whipped, Jody's eyes bulge with fear as she sees her sister, Acheampong stands in front of her

JODY

Master, Sir! I haven't stole anything

ACHEAMPONG

So Cliff is lying, you didn't take any eggs

Jody stares at Cliff

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JODY

No sir, I did take the egg

ACHEAMPONG

You know that in my culture, you steal, I take, you'd have your hand chopped off.... (Fear sets in for Jody) and you know I'm one for traditions...but I'm reasonable, an egg I can live with, anything more I couldn't, but you will still have to be punished and you will return back to the fields, its a shame
Jody, its a shame. 20 Strikes

Lucy is untied from the barrel and collapses from exhaustion, Jody is dragged pleading as she is tied down, Folu rips open her shirt from her back, Acheampong is standing behind a sobbing Jody with a whip, Acheampong goes to strike her but stops, he turns to Cliff who is watching eagerly, Cliff looks at his master with a smile, Acheampong passes the whip to Cliff, Cliff takes the whip and stands behind Jody and proceeds with Folu counting each stake, Jody, urinates on herself as she screams in pain on each lash as her skin on her back rips open.

Cliff is out of breath as he delivers his final strike, Jody is untied and collapses to the ground, Cliff overlooks the bloodied girls

CLIFF

No more stealing YOU HEAR!

Lucy is sobbing and comforting her sister as she stares with pure hatred at Cliff

Fade out

In the woods Daniels hands are blistered and bleeding Shaka looks at the crew of men

SHAKA

Lets go

Daniel and Stan are walking together, the men start to sin a slave song as they walk. Stan looks at Daniels hands, he

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

rips a strip of cloth from his shirt and wraps Daniels hands

STAN

I'm sorry, I didn't mean to.

DANIEL

Thats the problem, you are not thinking, whatever you do or say affects us all, we get punished, now I don't know how you got here or how it is where you are but here, we shut our mouths and get the job done its the only way to stay alive. if you do that bullshit again, I'll kill you myself.

STAN

Let me ask you something, do you want to just stay alive or do you want to live, you think about that.

Stan and Daniel continue to walk in silence, as they approach the plantation Stan sees Acheampong sitting on the porch watching him, Stan stares back. As he looks forward he is struck and knocked out with the bottom of Shaka's rifle.

Stan opens his eyes only to look up at Acheampong who is looking out into his fields at the blooming cotton

ACHEAMPONG

There's nothing more beautiful that looking out onto those fields, nature is so profitable, well it is when the workers work, how is it every time I see you boy its from the floor of my porch? You are beginning to be a pain and a bore, maybe I'll just sell you off but first you owe me a days work, remind me cliff how much is a days work worth in lashings

Stan begins to chuckle as he looks up at Acheampong, Acheampong looks at Folu in curiosity and also laughs

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ACHEAMPONG

Please share the humour

STAN

I was just thinking back to our history lessons in school about black slaves, I used to feel sorry for them, even bad that a man could do such a thing to another human, but now I wish nothing more to go back in time just to see you strung up.

Acheampong looks seriously at Stan then slowly bursts out laughing, he turns to Shaka

ACHEAMPONG

How hard did you hit him, history, school! What world are you living in, they say if you don't know where you are from how do you know where to go, we are a new generation, my ancestors have taught me the ways, I have read the books so I know where I am going, but you Boy, you have no direction, your daily motivation is to live and survive, see your kind is only good for one thing, to serve us. Now I do believe you owe me (looks at cliff)

CLIFF

100 lashes

ACHEAMPONG

100, There you have it, now not a lot of men can take that, especially when the flesh starts falling from your body, it bitterly takes it out of a man, so lets see what type of man you are, string him up, I'm going to have my lunch.

Stan looks at Acheampong as he is dragged and tied to a pillar

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ACHEAMPONG

When you've finished with him, sell
him

SHAKA

How much.

ACHEAMPONG

I don't care, lets say, just enough
for whisky and cigars

Acheampong heads back to the house as the whipping begins,

Acheampong is inside eating his lunch, the sounds of the
whip continues out side

Blood and flesh are on the floor, one of the dogs comes and
licks it up, Stan's body is limp and is dragged away.

The person who was doing the whipping is out of breath,
Shaka pats him on the back and laughs

SHAKA

That was a workout, ok, lets get
something to eat, then we can take
him to Fadayomi railways, thats if
he lives that long

FOLU

Fayayomi will have that boy laying
down tracks from here back to
Africa.

Cut

Stan's eyes open, he screams and cries as ointment is
applied onto his back then covered with a leaf by Jody who
is still bruised up and whipped herself, Jody comforts Stan
and tries to hush him

Daniel is looking from the corner of the room

JODY

What are they going to do with him

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DANIEL

They won't keep him, no one stays after a beating like that, remember what happened to Christopher (flash back of him hanging from a tree) they're going to send him to the Railway company where they will work him until he is dead

JODY

He won't make it, we need to get him out of here

DANIEL

Jody do you know what you are saying

JODY

Yes, I cant take it, I don't ever want that whipping again or have any of their dirty black hands on me, I'm leaving and I'm taking my sister to, you need to think Daniel, think about your future.

DANIEL

Out there running, you won't stop running, there is no future, they will catch you and hang you.

JODY

Then let them, but when they do and when they kill me I'll be free

Stan turns his head and looks at Jody

STAN

I'm coming with you

Jody smiles at Stan

DANIEL

You're all crazy. You are going to DIE!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STAN

We're already dead.

Daniel sighs heavily

DANIEL

When are you leaving?

JODY

Tonight, it has to be tonight, that
will give us a head start

DANIEL

You know where I stand, but, I will
help you. YOU, (Stan) rest, you
will need all your strength.

Stan looks at Daniel as he is held up by Jody

Cut.

RUNAWAY

EXT/NIGHT/The Plantation

The night is still, no one is up, everyone is asleep except Jody, Lucy and Stan, Lucy is helping Stan as he is still weak, in the house we see, Acheamong sleeping then Cliff, standing over Cliff is Jody holding a big sharp knife, Cliff's eyes flicker and he slowly opens them, he sees Jody and in one move Jody stabs Cliff, she bends down and whispers in his ear as he takes his last breath

JODY

Im going to go and help myself to
some eggs now, you just lay here
and think about that.

Jody walks out of the house then runs fast towards the treelike where Stan and Lucy are awaiting.

All three start running and continue as the sun begins to rise.

Scream echo the house and everyone is alerted, Acheamong, Shaka, Folu (other) (white maids etc) all gather around

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Cliff room, Acheampong walks through.

ACHEAMPONG

What in the world is all of this
noise

Acheampong looks into the room and sees a big knife sticking out of Cliff's chest, the maid hovering over the body looks at Acheampong

MAID

I came down to get supplies and
found his like this

Suddenly more shouting is heard as one of his men is shouting as he is running towards the house

MAN

Runaways Runaways

Acheampong gets to the porch, the man is breathing heavily

ACHEAMPONG

Who?

MAN

Lucy, little Jody and that new
white boy

ACHEAMPONG

Gather the men, ride into town and
get me the sheriff. I want that son
of a bitch swinging from his neck
by sunset

Everyone starts to scatter, Shaka stands next to Acheampong

SHAKA

That Jody really hatted Cliff

ACHEAMPONG

Well he got what was expected when
you betray your own kind, still,
I'm going to need good replacement.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Acheampong has a group of men getting ready to catch the runaways, in the distance the man sent out is riding back with the Sheriff (OBI) and his men on their chests are badges which read, runaway slave patrol, Acheampongs face lightens up with a smile.

ACHEAMPONG

OBI

OBI

Good Morning Mr Acheampong

ACHEAMPONG

Well it was, my head white boy is dead so breakfast was late and then two of my new slave runaway with another slave whom nobody knows and nobody owns

OBI

Well that is a busy morning, how long of head start do you think they have

ACHEAMPONG

Oh I'd say half a day at the most, they're on foot as well

OBI

Good, that means I have time for a coffee, so, they didn't take the horses then?

ACHEAMPONG

Now thats one thing I'm grateful for, those horses are worth 3 times the amount of those slaves

OBI

So how do you want to handle this

Acheampong hangs over some money to OBI

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ACHEAMPONG

The man, keep him, sell him or shoot him I don't care but the other two, the other two need to hang.....(sips coffee) bring Lucy back, Jody must hang.

OBI looks at his men and they head out so look ahead, a maid brings a tray out with a coffee for OBI, OBI takes it and the main leaves, OBI and Acheamong sit down, Acheamong hands Obi an envelope of money.

OBI

I heard you was in town the other night, you patch things up Simba yet

ACHEAMPONG

We're good, until we're not

OBI

You know he will never forgive you

ACHEAMPONG

I know, but I won't change how I think or say, thats not my purpose here. But between us, if Simba and I can have peace and work together, then we can do great things for the community, buy out the railway line, bring infrastructure along the railway, more jobs, more families striving, more money, life will be better for everyone.

OBI

Thats true, then the only thing that you'd have to do is perfect that whisky you've been trying to make.

ACHEAMPONG

You leave my remedy alone (both laugh) you want some?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OBI

No, no ,no last time I drank that I
missed a day from my life, Well,
(Gets up and straightens himself)
better get to work, got me some
runaways to find.

ACHEAMPONG

Be careful out there

OBI tips his hat then smiles

FINAL RUN

Ext/Day/The Forest

Lucy, Jody and Stan are moving as fast as they can through
the woodlands, they are tired and hungry,

LUCY

I need to stop, I cant go on

JODY

We have to keep moving

STAN

She's right we need to rest, catch
a breath, we will burn out if we
don't

Jody looks up between the trees towards the sun as she
breaths heavily.

JODY

Ok, but just for a bit

Lucy takes out some apples and hands them out but Stan
refuses it

LUCY

Eat it

Stan takes the apple and eats

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LUCY

We all need our strength

Jody sits next to Stan and can see blood seeping through his back.

JODY

When we next stop I'll have to change your dressing and clean you up, if you get infected you're no good to us

STAN

Do you know where we are going?

JODY

I do, if we keep traveling that way there's a place where people can help us, help us out of this state, we need to head north, they say in the north they have snow, I've never seen snow, have you?

Stan nods his head and the two girls are intrigued to know how and where

LUCY

You've seen it?

JODY

Where? Where are you from?

STAN

I don't know if it even matters, everything I've known isn't anymore, Snow, is cold and beautiful it covers the earth white, you can hold it, mould it and throw it at each other, and when it falls from the sky it floats down like angels and you open your mouth and try and catch them on your tongue. It's beautiful.

Fade out

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The three are on the run again, pacing through the forest on horses is OBI and his posse, OBI catches up with the rider who went ahead first.

POSSE 1

There tracks are fresh, they're
heading towards the river

OBI

You two double back and take the
dogs to the other side, meet me
near the old mill

The posse split up and ride out,

Lucy, Jody and Stan hear the river

JODY

Were close, when we get to the Mill
we can spend the night there

LUCY

Won't they find us

JODY

No, there is a secret place in the
basement

STAN

How do you know?

JODY

Because I built it, we can hide
there for a while

STAN

Sounds like a plan.

They suddenly hear the sounds of horses in the distance scaring them to move quicker, OBI and his men are riding harder, OBI sees a glimpse of the runaways but the horses stop and the men dismount, Stan looks back and he and Obi lock eyes, Stan recognises OBI as Errol, Obi is handed a rifle and takes aim

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STAN

Shit!

Stan runs as the shot is fired Obi misses and continues the pursuit on foot, Lucy is running with speed, she turns to look back then looks forward and runs into a tree knocking herself out, Jody sees her sister and screams her name, Stan comes and helps Lucy up

STAN

You have to go

JODY

I cant leave my sister

STAN

She's dead weight, I'll stay, I'll hide her, come back for her tonight when they take me away

JODY

They will kill you

STAN

It's ok, just go, please, you don't have time

Jody is crying with frustration, she holds her sister and kisses her forehead

JODY

I'll come back for you

Stan quickly drags Lucy to a nearby log and starts to to cover her with branches and leaves, he looks at Jody who is still watching.

STAN

Go Jody.

Jody turns and runs as Stan finishes covering her, he quickly looks around then makes a run for it, a shot is fired and Stan is hit in the leg, Stan screams out as he hits the ground, Stan turns around and out of the woods carrying a rifle is obi in his long black coat and black hat, his posse slowly walk behind him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OBI

Look at what we have here.

Obi stands over Stan, Stan looks up at Obi (Errol)

STAN

I know you're not going to believe
me but I know you

OBI

You should do, I track and kill you
people for a living.

STAN

Thats not what I meant. I know you
from another life.

OBI

Oh now you do magic, well guess
what so do I, you want me to make
you disappear

STAN

I tell you what If I can prove it,
then you don't kill me, deal.

Obi thinks about it for a second then aims his rifle at
Stan's head.

OBI

I'll tell you what, you tell me
something and if it's true, I won't
kill the women that ran with you,
ok ?

STAN

Ok, in the time I knew you, your
name was Errol, we know each other.

The posse behind OBI laughs while Obi's aim is steady

OBI

Go on.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STAN

You have a mark on your forearm,
its a birthmark

Stan looks at Obi who is still aiming, OBI shoots Stan between the eyes dead, then lowers his rifle, Obi looks at Stan's dead body as the posses all look at OBI

OBI

Lets go home, were done

OBI walks away leaving the dead body of Stan propped up against a tree, he looks at the birth mark on his arm.

Fade out

AWAKENING 1940

Ext/Night/Chicago 1940

Stan's eyes are tight and slowly open to see the snow fall down onto him, noise surrounds him and he soon sees that he isn't in the woods anymore, the sounds of the city relieve him until he looks a lot closer and sees that he has only gone forward in time, Stan grabs a newspaper from the trash can and reads the date, 9th Feb 1940, Stan looks down at himself, he has a thick brown coat on with working man boots on, Stan sees a hat on the floor from where he just was and bends down to pick it up, as Stan raises back up he sees Errol/OBI standing in front of him in a police uniform. Stan is taken back as the last time he saw his face it was at the end of a barrel. (Errol)

STAN

Officer

OFFICER

What are you doing around here?

STAN

Nothing officer I just.....Arrived

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OFFICER

Where are you from Boy

STAN

California, you know, on the west coast

OFFICER

Are you trying to be funny, I know where the fuck it is. Get your arse off my streets before I have you slung in a cell

STAN

Yes officer

Stan turns his collar up and puts his hands in his pockets to keep warm, as he puts his hands in he takes out a key, the key has a tag, room 112 Dudley House, Stan looks around, then he notices, everyone dressed smart, walking with families and driving nice new cars were all black, Stan looked into the window of a restaurant and could see all the diners are black and all the waiters, valet parking were white, suddenly a noise through an ally way gets Stan's attention, Stan pierces in to see a white man throwing the garbage away, Stan approaches the other man.

STAN

Hey there

GARBAGE MAN

What can I do you for?

STAN

I need a bit of help, I seem to be lost

GARBAGE MAN

Where do you wanna be?

STAN

I'm looking for a place called Dudley House

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GARBAGE MAN

Thats on the Southside, rough area,
you sure you want to go there pal?

STAN

Kind of just passing through

GARBAGE MAN

Passing through? What does that
mean. If you are here then you are
home, anyway what you need to do is
take the bus, take the 702, that
should get you there, I gotta get
back in.

STAN

Thank you, I appreciate it,
hopefully I can get to return the
favour

GARBAGE MAN

We'll see pal.

STAN

Hey, do you have anything for the
bus?

The garbage man reaches into his pocket and takes out a coin
and tosses it to him

GARBAGE MAN

Here you go.

STAN

Thank you, thank you very much.

GARBAGE MAN

Don't mention it

Stan walks to the bus stop and waits for the bus, the air is
cold, but Stan braves a smiles when he sees a couple (black)
walk past him, the bus arrives and the door opens, Stan
looks up to see a white driver, Stan gets on board and looks
down into the bus, Stan sees a sign hanging from the ceiling
of he bus towards the rear staying "whites only" with the

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

from of the bus mainly with black people, Stan slowly moves towards the back keeping his head low, just as the bus closes its doors to drive away the bus brakes sharply and the door opens again, The police officer (Errol) gets onto the bus and looks down the bus and points towards Stan

OFFICER
YOU! Off the bus.

Stan slowly gets up and follows the officer off the bus into the street, the bus doors close and drive off as two more black officers grab Stan and have him pressed up against the police car door.

OFFICER
I had a report of a white boy who look like you harassing a black couple from the bus stop, is that you boy

STAN
No, officer

OFFICER
So you wasn't at the bus stop?

STAN
I was at the bus stop but I didn't harass anyone officer

OFFICER 2
Where are you from boy

STAN
California

OFFICER
What you doing in my town boy

STAN
Nothing officer I'm just trying to find my way home

While pressed up against the car the other officer is going through Stan's pocket looking for Identification but finds nothing but a key

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OFFICER 2

Nothing, no ID or money, just this key

STAN

Its the key to my place

OFFICER

Did I ask you to speak?

Stan falls silent and waits.

OFFICER

I don't want to see you again boy, twice in one day is more than enough, if I see you again, you'll spend the night in a cell.

OFFICER 2

Next time keep your eyes and smiles on your own you hear?

Stan nods sheepishly, he begins to walk in the direction that the bus drove off towards, the two officers watch Stan walk away into the night.

Stan walks all the way to this house he and up the stairs to his apartment, Stan opens the door and looks around at the room, Stan sees the bed and lays down on it, Stan begins to Sob as he burns his head into the pillow.

Fade out

GHOSTS

Ext/Day/ The Police station

At the police station the officers are being address by the chief

CHIEF

Ok guys listen up, we have been getting a lot of reports from people in the community of those from the Southside venturing into neighbourhoods that they are not
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHIEF (CONT'D)

from, there have been some breaking's so I want you to be vigilant, especially with new faces in town. Also the Mayor will be visiting with his daughter tomorrow, so let's put our best foot forward ladies and gentlemen, don't make look bad you hear, and finally, guess who just got a promotion. Errol, get up here, you made detective

Everyone starts clapping as Errol makes his way towards the chief

DETECTIVE

Thank you chief, brothers. I just want us to continue to be the best at what we do, and thats to protect and serve our citizens

OFFICER 2

Yeah yeah just don't forget to buy the cakes for later save the speech for when your mayor

Everyone laughs

CHIEF

Ok, just make sure you vote for me when I do, ok let's get out there and make a difference.

Errol looks at his new detective badge and smiles with pride, his partner comes up to him

OFFICER 2

Well done brother

DETECTIVE

Hey, you're up next,

OFFICER 2

So you ready for our last patrol together

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE

Lets ride out, I'll tell you what,
I'll treat you to lunch

OFFICER 2

Well I should hope so with your pay
rise.

The two officers get into their car and drive off

-CUT TO STAN-

Stan is woken out of his sleep by a thud at the door, Stan is scared and nervous, the knock on the door gets louder, Stan slowly stands up and walks to the door and slowly opens in expecting the worse. As he opens it he sees a familiar face, its Daniel (Frank)

FRANK

Eh knuckle head, you ready

STAN

Ready?

FRANK

Don't tell me you forgot, listen I
had to pull a lot of favours to get
you this job so grab your shit and
lets go

Stan looks around the room, he grabs his coat and the change from the counter

FRANK

Come on, let's get moving.

STAN

I'm ready I'm ready.

Stan and Frank leave the building and are walking along the street

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FRANK

So tonight we have a our final meeting, you ready for this

STAN

I....

FRANK

Whats with you Stan, this was your plan, you're not backing out on us, this is our time, we stick it to those motherfuckers for all the shit they've done to us. Come on were here.

Frank and Stan walk into a yard and stand in a queue of workers waiting to go in.

Frank and Stan are dirty and greasy and are sitting, Frank takes out his lunch case and hands Stan a sandwich

FRANK

Here. I don't know what's with you today.

STAN

Listen, I need to ask you something, it might seem strange but just bare with me, SO, how long have we known each other?

FRANK

You serious Stan, I've known you for 10 years

STAN

Where did we meet?

FRANK

You bang your fucking head or something, jeez, ok, we met in the big house, I was in for burglary and you, white guy in the wrong place, that and you tried to rob a bank, I mean white guy walks into a black owned bank with a gun, your

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FRANK (CONT'D)
lucky to be alive.

STAN
But I dint kill anyone?

FRANK
Kill anyone? No, if you did you'd be dead, you forget about the white woman who killed that Black man, even though he raped her, they hanged her for murder, you don't go around killing black people thats suicide. Why do you think we're meeting tonight, we have to change things for the better, this is the only way we can get our voice heard, but you, I don't know how you worked it out but you did.

STAN
What time are we meeting tonight

FRANK
When we're done here we can go to Lisa's kitchen and fill our bellies, might be our last meal. Fuck, it will be worth it, I cant wait to see their faces, we're going to be legends. Come on let's get back to this.

The horn blows and everyone packs up and gets back to work.

CUT TO DETECTIVE AND OFFICER 2

The Detective and the officer (Errol/Shaka) walking down the neighbourhood (Black owned road) saying good morning to people who pass by, they walk into a coffee house where the owner (black) comes out to greet them, The detective looks around and sees the worker (white) who doesn't make eye contact.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COFFEE MANAGER

Officers how are you today?

DETECTIVE

Please, there's only one officer here

OFFICER 2

Guess who made detective

COFFEE MANAGER

Well its about time, soo you'll be the next mayor, not that I'm not happy with who we have but I know better is coming.

DETECTIVE

Well I might just start running now, what do you think

OFFICER 2

I think you should get those coffees in before the power gets to your head

COFFEE MANAGER

Two coffees coming up, Darren (white worker)

DARREN

Yes sir

COFFEE MANAGER

Fix me two coffee to go for our finest

DARREN

Yes sir

Darren looks down sheepishly avoiding eye contact and makes the coffees for the officers, The Detective notices a mark on Darrens hand in the shape of a leaf while the manager continues to talk the other officer

Darren finishes making the coffee to take away and hands them to the detective, the detective takes them and looks

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

into Darrens eyes.

The two officers leave the coffee shop Bothe carrying their coffees

DETECTIVE

Did you notice anything funny about that white boy working there

OFFICER 2

No, I didn't even pay him any mind, why?

DETECTIVE

Something didn't feel right

OFFICER 2

Nothing feels right about white people.

DETECTIVE

This was difference, not your normal white person, it was like he wasn't afraid

OFFICER 2

Thats just hate, what do you expect from those people, they will always hate us, we got them out of slavery, they have jobs, money, wha are do they want? They even have their own part of town where they sit and plot against us. Why do you think the crime is so high, they're animals, act and breed like them to

DETECTIVE

You sure your not going to run for mayor

OFFICER 2

(Laughs) Not me, I just don't like those people, ever since my mothers house was broken into

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE

Didn't you catch the person who did
it

OFFICER 2

Yeah, there was a white person
spotted in the neighbourhood, I
found him.

-Flashback-

Officer (Shaka) is patrolling the area and notices a white person, walking normally minding their own business, the officer pulls over and stops the man and puts him in handcuffs and drives the scared white man to a remote area, drags him out of the car and beats him to a pulp, the officer drives off and the man gets up and stumbles away, out of nowhere the officer returns and knocks the man over, the man is a bloody mess but is breathing, the officer gets out of the car and shoots the white man dead and then gets into the car and drives off. The detective looks at his friend in a worrying concerned way knowing that he is prejudice against white people.

OFFICER 2

Yeah, that neighbourhood is good
again. Anyway the crime isn't going
to stop for us anytime soon.

DETECTIVE

Let's get to work.

Fade out.

EXT/Night/The meeting downtown.

Stan and Frank are walking together in the Southside where is looks like a ghetto, buildings look derelict and homeless people are walking the streets, they get to a building where the front looks worn-out and they enter, they are given a cup of soup each and slowly make they're way to the front where a man is speaking to a crowded room as they get closer Stan sees the speaker and recognises him as CLIFF (Joseph)the slave masters house boy, Stan stares ant Cliff and cliff stares back and smiles, cliff continues to speak to the crowd.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOSEPH

How long? how long are we going to be treated like this, you know yesterday the sun was shining down from us all, it was hot, so hot, I reached into my pockets to only find enough money for a bottle of water, water mind you that reigns free from the sky, everything shop I went to, would not serve me, but what broke me was seeing a dog, a bowl was put in front of a store with a sign, loot after your pets, free water, those people don't care about us, were here as their pets, still in slavery just without the chains and whips, our ancestors were captured by the African nationals, they organised a world catered for them, you see I found out that in Africa the slaves had rights, they were looked after, educated even respected, but here, us, were treated less than a dog, torn from our homes, murdered, tortured, humiliated, broken down, women and children alike, well no more, NO MORE I SAY, its time to make our mark, our name in history to show the world, that we are human too. we cant let them separate us from our mind, body and soul, we have to walk to the same drum and never forget where we have come from.

The room cheers and chants, Stan looks at Frank, Stan looks at the woman pouring the soup for the people and sees it is Jody, Frank sees Stan staring.

FRANK

You still thinking about LISA, come on Stan snap out of it we need to see Joseph

Frank and Stan head towards the back into a room where

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Joseph is drinking a glass of water and wiping his brow, Joseph greets Frank and looks at Stan.

JOSEPH

Nice to have you on board Stan, we have a lot of work to do by tomorrow, is everything in place.

FRANK

The cars and the location is set

JOSEPH

Everything has to go to plan

FRANK

What happens if they don't meet the demands

JOSEPH

Then she dies

STAN

Wait. Just wait.

FRANK

Stan what's going on?

STAN

I just.... Just give me a moment. What are we talking about here?

Joseph looks at Frank confused

JOSEPH

Whats wrong with him?

FRANK

I don't know he's been like this all day, asking questions like doesn't know who we are.

JOSEPH

Sit down Stan, just take it easy.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FRANK

Stan do you know who we are?

STAN

YES. (Exhales)

JOSEPH

Do you remember who you are?

STAN

I know who I am, I..... I just want to go over the plan again... (looks at Joseph seriously)

JOSEPH

Ok. I understand, what we're about to do has never been done, let's just go through it again, you're right, a last minute reminder keeps everything fresh and in perspective. We're going to kidnap the Mayors daughter, every year around election time the mayor pays a visit to the district on the Northside, for the past year we have had a guys working in several shops so that when in sight we snatch the daughter. We're armed and ready to die,

FRANK

We will see this through

JOSEPH

Are we good?

Stan looks at Joseph and smiles

STAN

Yeah, I'm good

JOSEPH

Good, the others will be arriving later, I've gotten Lisa to prepare steaks and eggs for everyone so stick around, I better get back out (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

there.

Joseph leaves the two men alone, Frank looks at Stan

FRANK

Whats wrong with you?

STAN

You wouldn't understand

FRANK

No, try me. Get your shit together
you hear

Frank finishes his drink and walks out of the room, Stan looks around and sees a leaf on the wall and remembers it being places on the wounds, Stan gets from his chair sees a file on the desk, he opens the file and sees a newspaper article. MAYOR LAUNCHES NEW REFORM PROGRAM in the picture is the mayor, its the Doctor (Acheampong) Stan sees a photo sticking out and takes it out. Stan's eyes bulge in horror and he drops the picture, its a picture of the Mayors daughter Tamray Johnson (flash back to news coverage)

STAN

NO!, no what the fuck is going on?
Fuck, this cant be happening.

Stan looks at the desk as he slowly backs out of the room, Stan leaves and ploughs through the crowd, Frank notices Stan leave and tries to go after him but cant get through, Stan gets outside and takes a deep breath in.

LISA

So you finally came back

Stan turns to see where the voice came from, Lisa (Jody) is in the corner smoking a cigarette, Stan walks over to her and Hugs her

LISA

Are you ok?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STAN

NO!, no I'm not, something isn't
right, and I don't know how to make
it all go away

LISA

You need to calm down, start from
the beginning.

STAN

The beginning,

LISA

Yes. Sometimes you have to go back
to the start of things.

STAN

Yes, you're right, its me, it
started with me

LISA

You're not making any sense

STAN

I know, but it will, nobody has to
die, I can save her

LISA

Who, who can you save?

Stan runs off down the road, as he does Frank comes running
out and sees Lisa

FRANK

What did he say to you

LISA

Something about saving someone,
that nobody has to die.

FRANK

Damn!

Frank and Joseph are talking to each other in a heated
conversation

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FRANK

Stan's not with us, he's going to mess it all up, I don't know what's up with him

JOSEPH

You think he's going to the cops, How can you be sure, remember this was his idea.

FRANK

He's gotten cold feet, he's becoming a sympathiser, why else is he acting this way, we have been planing this for a whole year.

JOSEPH

You think he is actually going to try and save that black girl

FRANK

He will mess it all up for us, we will back to square one, do You remember what it was like for us before, this time will be worse

JOSEPH

Ok, we stick to the plan, if we don't and they are tipped off it will make it worst for all of us, we have to go through with it no matter what now.

FRANK

Stan has to be put down, he jeopardises the whole operation

JOSEPH

You want to kill one of our own

FRANK

If we don't, more of us will die.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOSEPH
Nobody must know

FRANK
They won't

Cut

EXT/NIGHT/ Raining, uptown towards the Mayors house.

Stan has his collar up on his coat and a hat low as he walks in the shadows avoiding the night lights to show that he is white. Stan looks at the Mayors house from afar and slowly approaches whilst looking around to make sure no one can see him, Stan pushes a letter through the box and walks away disappearing into the night.

The mayor is putting his daughter to sleep and makes his way back downstairs, he sees the envelope on the floor and goes to get it, the mayor reads it, he picks up the telephone and calls the police.

CUT TO POLICE CARS OUTSIDE THE MAYORS HOUSE

INVESTIGATION

INT/NIGHT/ The Detective is at the Mayors house

The Mayor is sitting in his lounge in his dressing gown, there is an officer with him standing by the door as the detective walks in from the rain, the officer acknowledges him and he walks through into the lounge, The Mayor puts down his tea and greets the detective.

MAYOR
Detective, sorry we had to meet
like this.

DETECTIVE
Mayor, how's your daughter

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAYOR

She is fine, she is upstairs
asleep, I don't feel the need to
wake her, here is the note (hands
the letter to the detective)

The detective reads the letter

DETECTIVE

Not really much in it

The letter reads, Don't attend the events tomorrow your
lives are in danger. The detective looks at the letter in a
strange way.

MAYOR

Is there something in it that you
can see

DETECTIVE

From just way it reads, this is
someone who has some education
behind him

MAYOR

How do you know its a him

DETECTIVE

The pen ship is harsh, this was
written in a rush, indicating that
that the threat is potentially
real, also the full stop at the end

MAYOR

What does that mean

DETECTIVE

It means he uses proper grammar, a
sense of pride in his work,
organised

MAYOR

So they're black

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE

Hard to say at this moment, have you made any enemies

MAYOR

Son I'm the mayor of this city, enemies come with the job. Idol threats that mean nothing, but this is different. This felt real.

DETECTIVE

Its because you read the word lives, rather than you thinking about you, lives indicate you and your daughter, my advice is to cancel tomorrow's schedule

MAYOR

Detective, let me ask you something

DETECTIVE

Go on

MAYOR

I hear you are the best officer in your division, scored the highest from any officer that took the exam, respected and just, I also knew your father personally so I know where you are from, let me ask you, with you here we will be protected?

DETECTIVE

My father always spoke highly of you, but still, precautions will have to be put into place

MAYOR

I won't tell you how to do your job detective, tomorrow will go ahead as normal, the people need to see what we do and who we are. I won't be intimidated by anyone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE

Ok, well. We will double up for tomorrow and I will leave someone here tonight, I will need to speak to you in the morning and go over a few things

MAYOR

That I can do detective

DETECTIVE

Well until the morning then Mayor

MAYOR

Until the morning.

The detective leaves the Mayors house, the rain is still pouring, across the road Stan is standing under a tree watching, he sees the detective and recognises him as Errol

CUT TO MORNING

The parade is taking place with marching bands and floats a radio reporter is broadcasting live

REPORTER

Good morning Chicago and welcome to the parade, it's been another glorious year for the city, and as they say, after a stormy night always come a brighter day.

As the parade continues the Mayor and his daughter arrive, the detective is there to meet them (Tolu is Tamray)

DETECTIVE

Good morning Mayor

MAYOR

Detective, you've met my daughter?

DETECTIVE

Only once, good morning Tolu

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TOLU

Good morning sir

DETECTIVE

This Officer will be with you throughout, he's the best I have and will be with you without

OFFICER 2

Good morning sir

MAYOR

I don't need you to protect me officer, you just keep an eye on my treasure, (looks at his daughter)

OFFICER 2

My life is hers sir

DETECTIVE

Ok, well I have your schedule and we have eyes all over the city

MAYOR

Good, well lets all have a good day

The Mayor walks in and waves to the crowd and greets other officials (general talk) (officials are the faces from 1620) The detective is looking around trying to see who or what is out of place.

Frank, Stan and Cliff are with some other men, they are waiting in the back of a van. Frank is looking at Stan

FRANK

Where was you last night

STAN

I went for a walk

CHIEF

In the rain?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STAN

Yeah in the rain

FRANK

You should be careful, you'd catch
a death like that

STAN

Thanks for the concern, so what's
the plan

CLIFF

The plans changed, to many things
have happened so now once we find
out where the daughter is going
thats where we strike, halfway
through the parade the daughter is
given a voucher of which she can go
to any of the stores and cash in,
usually its the ice cream parlour
but just incase we will spread out,
we have men in every store so we
will get a heads up first, whoever
is closest makes that move the rest
of us take out as many of those
black bastards as we can so that we
can get clear.

Cliff hands Stan a pistol

CLIFF

Make them count.

MAN 1

We're here.

FRANK

Lets go and mingle

Everyone gets out of the van except Cliff and Stan

CLIFF

If this goes wrong for any reason
or I smell a rat then you will die
first.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Cliff Exits the van and Stan follows, Frank, Stan, Cliff and the other men all mingle within the crowd, The detective is still looking at everything this and checking surroundings.

The Detective sees Stan and remembers him from the other day when he had to wake him up, he signals another officer to come over and then points out Stan.

DETECTIVE

Keep your eye on them

The detective starts to head out into the crowd, The mayor notices the movements taking place.

Suddenly an announcement is made by the MC

MC

And now its time for Miss Tolu
Acheampong to select her favourite
voucher to redeem

NEWS REPORTER

And here we have the Mayors
daughter picking her desired
choice, will it be the ice cream
parlour again which was last years
favourite.

Tolu stands on the stage in front of the parade as the MC hands out the vouchers to pick

MC

So what have you chosen this year

TOLU

The candy store

MC

There we have it, take her to the
candy shop

NEWS REPORTER

The sweet tooth has spoken.

The music resumes and all the cheers commence, the mayor and his colleagues celebrate and clap, The owner of the candy

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

store is ecstatic, his white worker puts on a fake smile and pretends to get excited

SHOP OWNER

Go get the new sweets we got in
from Europe

WORKER

The pink and yellow stripes

SHOP OWNER

Yeah thats the ones

The worker goes into the store room, as he reaches for the sweets we see his leaf tattoo on his arm, the worker also takes a pistol out that he was hiding and tucks it under his apron, Stan and Cliff are near the candy store and see the Mayors daughter being escorted over to the shop, the detective is also trying to push through the crowd to get to the store.

The daughter enters the shop and the shop owner is excited

SHOP OWNER

Welcome welcome

The worker is holding the new sweets he just got from the back and slowly reaches under his apron as Tolu steps forward to look at the candy, the worker draws out the gun and shoots the officer standing by, Frank and another Man shoot another nearby officer, the crowd run screaming, The detective draws his gun as he sees Stan and Cliff enter the store, As Cliff enters he shoots the store owner and then points the gun at Tolu, Tolu freezes as she looks up at the white man holding the gun to her face, outside Frank is continuously shooting, the Detective fires back shooting Frank in the neck.

Cliff Grabs Tolu's arm and pulls her to the back of the store followed by Stan and the shop worker, the shop worker guides them out of the back.

The detective instructs officers to surround the building and cover the back as he stands by the shop front door ready to breach, the detective enters and sees the dead shop owner and gives chase towards the rear of the store, running

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

through the back alleys towards the waiting van Cliff pushes Tolu in first, The worker hears someone approaching and sees the detective and open fire, the van starts to drive away leaving the worker and Stan, the worker continues to open fire as the detective approaches, the van has gone out of sight, the detective has ran out of bullets, the worker approaches pointing his gun at the black detective, the detective looks up at the barrel and the sinister smiling face of the white worker, a shot is fired and the worker is shot in the back by Stan, the detective looks at Stan, they share a moment before he runs off, the detective stands up slowly and looks down at the dead white worker as the other officers arrive.

OFFICER 2

You ok sir

DETECTIVE

Yeah,

OFFICER 2

You got one of the bastards

DETECTIVE

Yeah but they still have the mayors daughter

CUT TO THE POLICE STATION.

WHO IS WHAT

Int/Day/Police station

The news reporter is standing outside of the police station broadcasting live.

NEWS REPORTER

We have just been informed that Tolu Acheamong the daughter of the Mayor of our beloved city has been kidnaped by a white organisation, Chicago's finest are out in full force investigating several

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NEWS REPORTER (CONT'D)

suspects who were at the scene of the crime. Local communities are in fear that this will turn into a race war with white members of the public kidnapping children, hopefully we will have more information further the investigation.

We see several white men and women being roughed up and being treated badly on the streets and in the police interview rooms. (Improv)

The mayor is with the chief of police and the detective.

MAYOR

What are you doing?

CHIEF

We have all our men out combing the streets, we have a description one of the men and another shot dead by the detective.

DETECTIVE

In these situations we should be getting a call very soon

MAYOR

I don't want to hear about these situations, I don't care what it takes you get my daughter back, where were your men.

DETECTIVE

They were organised sir, we've never seen them like this. A lot of officers were also killed sir

MAYOR

Yes, yes I know

DETECTIVE

Sir, we will get your daughter back.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The chief looks at the detective, then looks at another officer who comes in.

CHIEF

Sir its better that you go home, we will have officers waiting there with you incase they call you.

The mayor looks at the detective

MAYOR

Bring her home, she is all I have.

DETECTIVE

I will

The mayor leaves the office and the chief looks at the detective

CHIEF

What the hell was that, how can you tell the Mayor that you will get her back when we have no leads or clues, most of the suspects are dead, you couldn't leave one alive?

DETECTIVE

It wasn't me

CHIEF

What?

DETECTIVE

The suspect in the ally behind the stores, I didn't shoot him

CHIEF

Then who was it

DETECTIVE

One of the kidnappers

CHIEF

You're telling me one of the white boys who kidnapped the mayors daughter shot one of his own, why?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE

He saved me. I don't know why, the man had a gun to my head and he saved me.

CHIEF

Now I've heard it all.

DETECTIVE

The thing is I've seen this guy a few days ago, he was asleep on the side walk, no I.D said he was lost and just trying to get home, when he looked at me its like he had seen me before

CHIEF

You know this white boy son?

DETECTIVE

No sir, but I have a feeling that he will help us, I cant explain it

CHIEF

Listen, I don't care what you have to do, just make sure its done, I don't want to read about this girl being found somewhere dead do you hear me

DETECTIVE

Crystal sir

CUT TO THE WAREHOUSE

INT/DAY/WAREHOUSE

Tolu is tied to a chair and gagged, she is scared and her eyes are looking all around her at the empty damp warehouse, she sees a rat and screams under the gag, Stan and Cliff are in another room, Cliff is pacing up and down

CLIFF

I don't believe it, did you see Frank? I wonder if he got away

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STAN

I don't know, I was right behind
you, I just ran

CLIFF

And that cop, he killed our inside
man just like that. I thought he
was clear, what happen you was
there

STAN

It just happened so quick

CLIFF

I cant believe we did it, your
plan, we did it

STAN

Yeah. So now we need to make our
demands

CLIFF

Demands, what do you mean, we need
to make an example of her, this is
how the revolution is going to
start, the first, and the last
fight, its like you said, if we do
this, they will see that we're not
afraid, others will join us and we
can get our equality in their black
mans world

STAN

It's not going to work

CLIFF

What! What do you mean, this is the
plan, Your plan!

STAN

It won't end well, they will never
see it from our point of view if we
kill a child

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CLIFF

She is just a black child, they
don't care about us, what is this?
I don't understand, are you going
against the cause

Cliff raises his gun to Stan's face, all of a sudden a loud
bang of a door slamming open echos through the ware house,
Stan and Cliff look at each other in fear/panic

CLIFF

They're here

They Both look at the steal door that has been opened and
Frank appears, stumbling into the warehouse holding his
stomach, he's been shot. Stan and Cliff rush over to help
and carry him towards a table, Frank gives Stan a look of
discomfort

CLIFF

Get some water

Stan goes to get some water for Frank, Frank grabs Cliff's
hand and pulls him towards him

FRANK

Stan's betrayed us, he killed the
shop boy, don't let him.....

CLIFF

Frank, FRANK!

Frank Dies and Cliff goes to find Stan in a rage, Stan makes
his way across the warehouse to where Tolu is tied up.

The detective is riding with one other officer and a report
comes over the car radio

RADIO

Suspect in the kidnapping spotted
going towards the industrial
estate, suspect is armed and
dangerous

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE

Thats two blocks from here, step on
it

Stan reaches Tolu and looks down at the scared child

STAN

Theres no time to explain, I'm not
part of this, when I untie you, you
need to run as fast as you can out
of here ok

Tolu shakes her head and Stan quickly unties her, as he sets
her free she looks at him

TOLU

Who are you?

STAN

I'm just somebody trying to make
things right in a world I don't
even know anymore.

TOLU

I thank you sir. You save me.

Stan looks at the young girl

STAN

Just go, get help, GO!

Tolu makes a run for it, as she escapes Cliff finds Stan

CLIFF

You Traitor

Cliff shoots Stan in the stomach forcing Stan to the ground,
Cliff comes in with a boot to the ribs and continuously
beats on Stan

CLIFF

Stay here, I'll be back

Cliff runs out of the room and is giving chase to Tolu

The detective and the officer arrive at the industrial

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

estate and immediately see Tolu running out of the warehouse with Cliff behind her with a gun in his hand, the detective takes aim and just as Cliff is about to grab Tolu the detective shoots Cliff in the head dead, Tolu screams frozen in her stride, the officer runs over and the detective follows

DETECTIVE

Are you ok, did they hurt you

TOLU

No, there's a man in there who helped him, I think he is hurt

DETECTIVE

Stay here

The detective slowly makes his way through the warehouse with his gun ready, he comes across Frank, dead on a table, he suddenly hears a noise echo through the warehouse, its Stan struggling to get up but cant, the detective makes his way across the warehouse to Stan, he sees him and puts his gun away and tries to help him, Stan is in a bad way, and is bleeding out on top of the beating he just received.

DETECTIVE

Hey, hold on there

STAN

Is the girl safe

DETECTIVE

Yeah, yeah she's safe, who are you?
whats your name? Why did you save
me?

STAN

I'm Stan, I saved you because we're
the same

DETECTIVE

What do you mean the same, I don't
even know you

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STAN

But I know you, you have a birth
mark on your arm

DETECTIVE

How did you know that

STAN

(Smiles) the last time we met you
shot me (laughs in pain)

DETECTIVE

Where are you from?

STAN

Different time and place, I'm a
cop, a good cop

DETECTIVE

I bet you are, listen Stan you done
good today, you did real good, just
hang on, I'm going to get you some
help.

STAN

Don't leave me here, I don't want
to be alone this time.....I just
want to go home.

DETECTIVE

Ok, I won't go, just hold on ok
Stan, just hold on.

STAN

I just want to go home

Stan's eyes slowly close and he takes his last breath.

Fade too black.

REDEMPTION

INT/DAY/Back in prison

Stan slowly opens his eyes and a blurred light is over him, voices surrounds him

NURSE

He's coming around, I've got a pulse.

DOCTOR

Welcome back

Stan looks up and recognises the doctor again and smiles

Fade out

ONE YEAR LATER

Stan is in his cell reading a letter from the mother of Tamray Johnson

(LETTER in Mothers voice)

Stan

Thank you for your letters, they have helped me over this year, at first I was angry and thought you wasn't sincere, but from your words I know that wasn't true, my great grandmother always taught me to look at situations through other eyes and see now that what happened was accidental, I will admit the anger clouded my entire vision and I refused to see anything else but hate for you.

What changed my mind was the words I read, it's funny, though your words I could hear my great grandmother voice again, something I haven't heard in a while.

(LETTER in Stan's voice)

I'm just somebody trying to make things right in a world I don't even know anymore. Its funny, that such an old saying is still relevant for today, I thank you for your prayers and thoughts and hope that they also comfort you when you need it, I know that my daughter would be happy.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Tamray Johnsons mother finishes reading the letter and opens a draw, and places it in where there are a bunch of other letters from Stan, camera pans up to the pictures on the dresser which shows, Tolu.

End.

(CONTINUED)

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