



SAME NAME

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FADE IN

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

The fifty-year-old handsome Caucasian BRENT BENTON primps in front of a MIRROR.

BRENT (O.S.)

My name is Brent Benton. I started out twenty-five years ago with some early successes as an actor. I did not want to believe a producer when he told me I would have more success when I get older. But the creativity evolved into writing for stage and screen with some combining writing with my acting. Maybe, I'm about to do that again.

CHUCK, Brent's lover, approaches Brent.

CHUCK

You look great! Just go in there, be yourself and let the magic take over.

BRENT

Thanks.

They hug and kiss.

FLASH on the image of the handsome thirty-year-old African American BRENT BENTON with the caption:

BRENT BENTON IS IN THE CITY TO PROMOTE HIS LATEST MOVIE.

INT. HOTEL SUITE - MORNING

Young Brent gets ready in front of a MIRROR.

YOUNG BRENT (O.S.)

My name is Brent Benton. Not to be confused with the other one twenty years older. I have been acting for ten years and now an action hero. Today I meet the older Brent who may help me get a more challenging dramatic part. All because of our same name. This is a crazy business!

INT. HOTEL SUITE - MORNING - LATER

Young Brent kisses HEATHER, a pretty young woman.

YOUNG BRENT  
In case you didn't know, I love you.

HEATHER  
And I you big time!

YOUNG BRENT  
Now, let's go face the world.

HEATHER  
Ok, you face it here while I go shopping.

YOUNG BRENT  
Sounds good.

EXT. HOTEL LOBBY- DAY

Brent walks through the front doors with a small briefcase.

INT. HOTEL HALLWAY - DAY

Brent stands at a DOOR.

Young Brent opens it.

YOUNG BRENT  
Hello.

BRENT  
Hello.

They shake hands.

YOUNG BRENT  
Nice to meet you.

BRENT  
Yes.

YOUNG BRENT  
Please come in.

INT. HOTEL SUITE - DAY

They sit on a sofa with liquid refreshments in front of a coffee table.

Brent opens his briefcase onto the table.

He pulls out a HEADSHOT PICTURE.

He hands it to young Brent.

It is a headshot picture with his name on it from twenty years ago.

BRENT

It's yours.

YOUNG BRENT

Wow.

Young Brent puts the headshot down on the table.

He moves away as Brent pulls out a SCRIPT from the briefcase.

Young Brent returns with his current headshot.

He puts it down next to Brent's headshot which displays their shared name.

YOUNG BRENT (CONT'D)

And this one is for you.

BRENT

Thanks. Unbelievable and you can't make this up.

YOUNG BRENT

What?

BRENT

This.

He refers to script.

YOUNG BRENT

Oh yes. I didn't intend to steal your name or anything. I was born with it and wanted to keep it that's all.

BRENT

But, I had it first.

YOUNG BRENT

And it brought us here.

BRENT

Yes.

Brent picks up the script.

BRENT (CONT'D)

You play the young one and I play the older one, with all those journeys in between.

YOUNG BRENT

It's wild.

BRENT

And unique. There's more magic for both of us.

YOUNG BRENT

Yes, I like the script and so does my manager. She has some ideas about it.

BRENT

Good for her. This is the latest draft.

YOUNG BRENT

Would you like to go out and get some fresh air?

BRENT

Sounds good.

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

Brent and young Brent casually walk together.

EXT. PARK BENCH - DAY

The Brent's sit together.

YOUNG BRENT

Well, I do want to get into some new areas with more challenge and depth.

BRENT

Good, then you should. There's more for both of us in the script.

YOUNG BRENT

Like I said before my manager has some ideas about it.

BRENT

Yes?

YOUNG BRENT

She thinks the story might sell better if your part is played by an actor with established box office.

BRENT

But it's my story.

YOUNG BRENT

I know, but she thinks it might be good to consider some other actors also for the sake of getting it produced.

BRENT

I wrote this and it won't be done without my permission!

YOUNG BRENT

But...

BRENT

No buts! But just my ass up there! I'm not going to audition to play myself!

Brent gets up to leave.

YOUNG BRENT

Wait.

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

A determined Brent walks followed by young Brent who catches up to him.

YOUNG BRENT

I'm with you on this. You should play the part.

Brent turns to respond.

BRENT

Well, that is the only way.

YOUNG BRENT

Yes, please calm down. Now that I've met you, I see all that.

Young Brent extends his hand to a reluctant Brent, and they shake hands.

They quietly continue to walk together.

BYSTANDERS recognize the famous young Brent.

A small group of girls approach young Brent.

He chats and signs autographs as Brent looks on.

INT. HOTEL SUITE - DAY

Young Brent sits on the sofa.

He looks towards the coffee table to notice the headshots of the two Brent's next to each other.

YOUNG BRENT

Oh, he forgot to take this...

He ponders as he continues to look at the compared headshots.

A knock at the door.

Young Brent opens the door to a WAITER with a food cart.

YOUNG BRENT (CONT'D)

Come in.

Young Brent leads him in towards the dining table.

The waiter slowly puts out the food and utensils.

WAITER

Wow, Mr. Benton I've seen all your movies and I'm a great fan.

YOUNG BRENT

Well, thank you.

WAITER

Could I get an autograph?

YOUNG BRENT

Sure, over here.

Young Brent moves to the coffee table.

He bends over to pick it up his headshot.

He groans and then slumps down over the headshots face down on the table.

YOUNG BRENT (CONT'D)  
Oh my God! Why...

WAITER  
This is all I have to give.

The waiter takes the headshot out from under young Brent.

WAITER (CONT'D)  
Thank you.

Young Brent is motionless on the table with a knife in his back.

The waiter walks away.

He sits down on the sofa.

He gazes at the headshot.

WAITER (CONT'D)  
Oh no, he forgot to autograph it.

INT. HOTEL HALLWAY - DAY

Heather carries shopping bags as she approaches the door.

She puts the card key in the slot.

INT. HOTEL SUITE - DAY

Heather opens the door to find the bloody scene.

She screams, drops the bags, and then runs out into the hallway.

The waiter calmly remains on the sofa with the headshot.

FLASH scenes with SIRENS, and NEWS REPORTS that report BRENT BENTON WAS CRITICALLY INJURED FROM STAB WOUNDS BY A DERANGED HOTEL WAITER.

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

A frenzy of reporting MEDIA is encamped outside.

INT. HOSPITAL WARD - DAY

Police officers stand guard at a sign that restricts entry.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

In a room filled with flowers.

An unconscious young Brent lays in bed attached to medical equipment.

FLASH on various press publicity that show young Brent in recovery.

INT. BRENT APARTMENT - DAY

Brent reads a backstage newspaper with interest.

INT. CASTING OFFICE - DAY

A tense Brent with a script, struggles reading a scene with an actress before two casting directors observing.

CASTING DIRECTOR

Ok, that's fine. You don't need to finish the scene.

Brent turns towards him.

BRENT

Ok, thanks.

Brent walks away.

CASTING DIRECTOR

Please wait. There is another part that you may be interested in. This part is more involved in the story. Could you stay for some improvisation?

BRENT

Well, sure.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

Young Brent sits in a lawn chair as he talks on the telephone.

YOUNG BRENT

Thanks Brent, I'm feeling much better and have had a lot of time to think. I want to do something special more than ever before it's too late.

INT. EMAIL TEXT - DAY

"Hello Brent,

We would like you to play the part of the creepy guy Edgar which you auditioned for in the improvisation. Since, this part is major in the pilot, but may not go on in the series you will be billed as a guest star. Congratulations and we look forward to working with you."

INT. DESK - DAY

Brent smiles at the good news to himself.

BRENT

Yes, yes, yes! A good part and it has been a while. Maybe, this is about the when I get older thing? Anyway, this feels good!

INT. FILM SET - DAY

Brent in dress and makeup as a creepy character is among other actors, film crew, and equipment in between takes.

The DIRECTOR who was also one of the casting directors approaches Brent.

DIRECTOR

I am very pleased with what you are doing with the character. You are playing his creepiness in a subtle way, not obvious which is fresh.

BRENT

Thank you, and I really like working with you.

DIRECTOR

Good, let's keep it going.

BRENT

Yes.

Later Brent is in front of a camera set up in a close-up scene as he finishes dialogue.

DIRECTOR

Cut, and thank you very much.

The director applauds joined by the entire crew. Brent humbly

expresses thanks.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Brent deep in thought walks with Chuck on a breezy day.

CHUCK

Is something on your mind?

BRENT

I want to make a change.

CHUCK

What with us? I thought we were...

BRENT

No, no that's better than ever. My new name is Brendon Moore.

CHUCK

Why?

BRENT

It is just the right time. A new chapter, identity and somehow my old name doesn't suit me anymore. But it does fit young Brent.

CHUCK

But, what about the deal with young Brent.

BRENT

Oh, I still want to work with him, but the plot has changed.

INT. DESK - DAY

FLASH on passages of time as Brent intensely types at the computer.

INT. COMPUTER SCREEN - DAY

An email appears that reads, "The Medow pilot has won another festival award. Congratulations and way to go all on the Medow team!!"

FLASH on the list of "Medow" film credits with "Brendon Moore" listed as a guest star in the role of "Edgar".

INT. BRENT APARTMENT - DAY

Brent speaks on the telephone.

BRENT

I hope you like this new departure for  
you.

INT. SCREENING ROOM - DAY

A SCENE from a new film with young Brent is screened.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Young Brent sits at a bar with a drink deep in thought.

An announcement with a flashing of lights indicates that the  
bar is closing.

A tipsy, but determined young Brent gets up off his stool to  
leave.

EXT. SIDEWALK - NIGHT

Young Brent walks along in the dark when confronted by a  
stranger.

After a quick exchange young Brent shakes his head no, and  
then walks away.

The MUGGER comes up from behind to grab his wallet out of his  
pocket.

Young Brent fights him off with some blood and punches.

A POLICE CAR rushes into the scene with TWO COPS.

The mugger takes off in hot pursuit by the cops.

A bloodied and bruised young Brent catches his breath in  
relief from the rescue.

His wallet still in his pocket.

EXT. SIDEWALK - NIGHT

The wounded young Brent walks with determination.

EXT. BROWNSTONE STEPS - NIGHT

Young Brent staggers up the steps to a door BUZZER.

He pushes on it until the door opens.

A groggy AIDEN, the same age as young Brent appears.

AIDEN  
What happened?

Young Brent bounds in the door.

He grabs Aiden into a passionate kiss which takes Aiden by a pleasant surprise.

YOUNG BRENT  
This is just the beginning of what's going to happen. We are meant for each other, I love you, and I'm not going to beat myself about it anymore!

AIDEN  
Well, all right let's get you fixed up!

INT. SCREENING ROOM - DAY

Young Brent, and Brent are seated next to each other among others after the screening ends.

YOUNG BRENT  
Thanks Brent or would you prefer Brendon?

BRENT  
No, I answer to both, and you are very welcome. It was my pleasure.

FLASH on press publicity about young Brent's work in the new film MORE MAGIC with surprise at him in a gay role which may make him an awards contender.

INT. MOVIE THEATER - NIGHT

THE END appears on the screen.

The packed premier audience breaks out into applause as the credits roll which show Brent Benton in the lead role and Brendon Moore as the screenwriter.

Both Brent's sit with pride along with their escorts of Heather and Chuck among others.

FADE OUT