Swindle
By
Tom Peterson

Divinity Films
A man cowers on the floor beneath a baseball bat held above him.

SORIN, a rough-looking man, 29 stands over the man.

MAN
He gonna pay! He gonna pay I promise, Sorin. I promise!

SORIN
They pay me now. That’s what they must know. You make sure they know that message. They don’t fuck with me.

Sorin turn to two woman and a teenage boy sitting on sofa cushions against the wall.

SORIN
You told me your brother was dependable ain’t that right?

SASHA
He told you they’ll pay, he always gets the money, Sorin. He’ll do it, right, Diego?

DIEGO
I get it, I promise!

Sorin swings the bat against Diego’s head, striking him in the ear. Diego falls over grasping the side of his head. His sisters and brother wince at the sight.

SORIN
That’s what you show them. You send them that message. Or I take it from you!

DIEGO
Alright! Alright!

Sorin swears in Russian as he looks away in disgust.

SEVERAL LIGHT KNOCKS ARE HEARD AT THE DOOR. Sorin turns.

SORIN
I think they pay now.

Sorin opens the door to reveal a young, blonde woman standing with her hands folded in front of her.
SORIN
Who are you? Why you knock on my door huh?

The woman stares at him. She is completely silent.

SORIN
Hey, I’m talking to you. Who the hell are you?

The woman points to her ears. Shakes her head.

SORIN
You deaf or somethin’?

The woman nods her head. Sorin stares at her surprised before breaking into laughter.

SORIN
Oh shit... I cannot believe this.

He turns to the others inside.

SORIN
A deaf woman come to my door.

She continues to stare at him calmly.

SORIN
So what you want huh?

The woman looks down at her purse and digs inside. Sorin watches her as he rolls his eyes.

The woman pulls out a small notebook and a pen. She begins to write on it.

SORIN
Oh you fucking with me right?

The woman raises the notebook to his view. Sorin snatches it from her hands. He reads her writing.

SORIN
"Carrie". Your name is, Carrie.
Friend of Clause. Clause? Why that son of a bitch send you to me huh?

CARRIE SNATCHES THE NOTEBOOK BACK FROM HIS GRIP. His eyes widen as he looks up surprised. Carrie scribbles another message. She reveals it to him.
SORIN
You want to help?

He looks back at her. She nods.

SORIN
How the fuck you help me huh?

Sorin laughs as he drops her notebook on the steps by her feet. Carrie reaches down and retrieves it.

SORIN
Clause must got something fucked in his head, I don’t need help from a fucking deaf woman.

Carrie finishes her next message. She tears out the page and hands to Sorin as he swipes it. He straightens it out to read.

SORIN
Oh really? You tryin’ to bust my balls huh? You really serious with this shit? Oh fuck me.

Carrie smiles as she awaits his response.

SORIN
(laughs)
Okay, I like you. You come help me. I put you to good use.

Carrie grins as she attempts to walk in the living room. Sorin stops her with his arm extended to the door frame.

SORIN
You fuck me over... I kill you. And your friend, Clause.

Carrie smiles back calmly as he removes his arm from the doorway. She enters in as the others stare at her surprised.

Sorin slams the door shut.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - DAY

The laughter and voices grow as TWO MEN enter the alleyway.

Carrie steps away from the wall in the middle of the alleyway. She stands in front of the men. She wears ripped and tattered clothing. Her hair and skin unwashed. She appears as if she has been living on the streets for months.
MAN 1
Hello.

Carrie stares back at them.

MAN 2
Do you need some help?

Carrie slowly extends a worn, old purse out to the men. They glance at each other.

MAN 1
Well, I got a few bucks.

MAN 2
I have some change.

Both men retrieve money from their pockets.

SORIN
I think you got more than that.

The men turn as several of Sorin’s thugs jump them. The men are shoved against the wall and frisked.

Both men suffer strikes to the stomach and face as they are looted. Carrie keeps her eyes away from them.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sorin pounds fists with DANKO, a silver-decorated thug. A group of their thugs sit around the living room. Carrie sits in the middle of two men. A care-free smile on her face.

SORIN
...and this one really impressed me. I thought Clause was fuckin’ with me sending her to my door.

DANKO
She really deaf?

SORIN
Should seen her handin’ out her purse to them assholes. She can’t hear shit.

One of the thugs leans over and attempts to surprise Carrie by shouting in her ear. Carrie remains completely unaffected as she stares ahead smiling.
DANKO
Damn. And she wants in on this huh?

SORIN
She didn’t ask for nothin’.

DANKO
She’s a keeper, Sorin.

Sorin and Danko laugh.

DANKO
We still hittin’ Jerad’s place?

SORIN
They ain’t expectin’ shit.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD HOME - DAY

Sorin casually moves up the path to the front door of the house. He knocks on the door as Danko walks around the back.

Sorin smiles confidently as he awaits. THE FRONT DOOR FLIES OPEN. Sorin comes face to face with a handgun.

OFFICER
Get down on the ground! Down on the ground now!

Sorin steps back as he stares with wide eyes.

DANKO
Fuck man! They were waiting for us!

Danko struggles as he is held by several officers and escorted from the side of the house.

SORIN
(whispering)
That bitch...

Sorin quickly takes off from the yard. The officers chase after.

Sorin passes through the parked vehicles on the side of the road. HE IS MET WITH THE IMPACT OF A BASEBALL BAT TO THE SIDE OF HIS HEAD.

SORIN
SHIT! What in... Fuck!

Sorin looks up to see Carrie. He strains to see her clearly through the blood leaking from his ear into his eye.
CARRIE
Looks like we have something in common now.

Sorin stares at Carrie in shock.

CARRIE
You don’t remember me do you?

Sorin clenches his teeth.

CARRIE
You robbed me and my sister. You remember hitting me don’t you? You hit me hard.

Carrie digs into her ear. She winces as she pulls out two small objects from her ears. She tosses them onto Sorin.

CARRIE
It’s amazing how easily we can effect each others lives isn’t it?

Officers quickly reach Sorin and lift him from the ground. Carrie and Sorin stare at each other as he is escorted away.

A woman with short, blonde hair reaches Carrie and stands beside her. MEGAN, Carrie’s sister, watches with satisfied eyes as Sorin is carried off.

MEGAN
Are you alright?

CARRIE
Perfect now.

SORIN
(in the distance)
Tricky bitch!

CARRIE
(shouting)
I heard that!

Carrie grins as her sister laughs.

FADE OUT: