The Other Side

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Charles is a young (28) ruthless businessman his only goal in life is to make a lot os money so he can retire you and he doesn't mind how he does it either, to him its only business.

THE PERSONAL TOUCH

DAY/INT/BAKERS BONDS BUILDING

CHARLES is dressed in his pinstriped suit, heading into the Bakers Bonds building, he scans in his ID badge and heads to the elevator where he is joined by RICHIE and younger up and coming broker who looks up to CHARLES and is hungry enough to be just like him if not better, CHARLES looks at RICHIE, RICHIE is excited.

RICHIE

Hey, sweeps today, are you pumped

CHARLES

Yeah this is the bonus day, make and break for the rest of the financial year

RICHIE

Who are you pushing? I got a tip the media giant VOLO is about to be liquidated if they don't have a buyer

CHARLES

Where did you get that information

RICHIE

My sisters girlfriend works for them as an intern, she's cool with everyone, anyway she's sitting in a meeting and the finance director comes in and lays it down, and you know me, I had to get in on this.

CHARLES

Wait, your sisters a lesbian

RICHIE

Yeah, why?

CHARLES

No reason, VOLO huh, I've never heard of them

RICHIE

You're shitting me, shit here's my floor, you wanna grab lunch

CHARLES

Sure

RICHIE

So Charles what you going to do with your bonus money?

CHARLES

Go skiing or something, what about you?

RICHIE

Ive put a nice deposit on a ring,
I'll pay that off and propose man,
I can't wait.

The Elevator doors close CHARLES continues to his floor, as he walks towards his office he stops at his receptionist

**JANICE** 

Good morning Sir

CHARLES

Janice I need the stock list on VOLO and my client list and a coffee

JANICE

Right away sir

Charles heads into his office, takes of his jacket and puts on his ear peace and starts dealing, as he does JANICE brings in the VOLO file and puts a fresh cup of coffee on the table for CHARLES, CHARLES doesn't even say thank you and JANICE walks out as CHARLES has his first call to MIKE a filmmaker who is currently in the middle of making a film

CHARLES

Hello Mike, Charles Green

MIKE

Hey Charles

CHARLES

Hows the film coming along

MIKE

Yeah, its..... How can I help you

CHARLES

Ok now something has landed in my lap, VOLO you heard of it

MIKE

Yeah media outlet, what about it

**CHARLES** 

They're about to liquidate, I thought of you on this, (looks at his watch) in about four minutes everyone is going to get wind of this, I want you on this first, but you have to tell me now

MIKE

I don't know CHARLES what if they don't get a buyer

CHARLES

Are you hearing yourself, the biggest Media outlet is up for sale, the database alone is gold, times ticking, I promise you , you will do good on this, this will be the best thing you will have done all year

Mike is on the other end thinking, as he Does RICHIE is talking to everyone as he heads to his office, the time is ticking and Mike is still thinking, CHARLES has the account on the computer ready to purchase the shares as RICHIE picks up his telephone to dial a number

MIKE

What can you get me?

CHARLES

At least 30% holding

MIKE

Ok do it

Charles presses the button and puts down the phone just as RICHIES starts to ring, Richie logs onto his computer and sees that 30% of the shares are already gone. Charles smiles and sips his coffee.

Janice walks into Charles office, they are calling for you upstairs sir

CHARLES

Janice, did you know Richies on the third floor had a lesbian sister

**JANICE** 

No sir

CHARLES

Amazing

Fade away

THE TASK

DAY/INT/DIRECTORS FLOOR

CHARLES fixes his tie and walks into the board room where are the executives are waiting, at the head of the table is Mr Asher the managing director, an old man with old money and whom is still a ruthless business man.

CHARLES stands and waits to be told to sit down

ASHER

Please Charles take a seat, were all men here

CHARLES

Thank you sir

**ASHER** 

Very impressive this morning, ahead of the game as usual it see, and you made your bonus even before the day had started

CHARLES

Thank you sir

**ASHER** 

We've been watching you CHARLES and we're happy with what we see, Young, hungry, no dependancies, a man on a mission, just like we we're

All the older members laugh in agreement

ASHER

So we have a proposal for you, we would like to mentor you, I would pass the business down to my son but like his mother all he's interested in is being a lapdog for women, I need a mans man running this company, so lets me ask you, are you up for the task? Is this something that you would want?

CHARLES

Thats been my ambition from the first time I stepped through those front doors sir

**ASHER** 

Yes I remember you, did we have a bet SIMON?

SIMON

We did I said he wouldn't last six months, I was wrong.

CHARLES

Yes you was, I knew you was a good choice, yes, there is a future here, look past the money, it means nothing, what you want is the power, mould your destiny, shape the future. SO!, before we can take you under our wing I have a small task for you

CHARLES

Whatever it is sir I'm ready

All the executives look at each other

ASHER

When you leave there will be some documents let on your desk, yo need to take a trip and get these papers signed, if the papers are not signed, then the offer of mentoring for partnership will be void.

CHARLES

Who is the client sir

ASHER

He is our first and oldest client, he has personally help build this establishment to what it is today, when you address him do so with the utmost respect

CHARLES

I will sir

**ASHER** 

Excellent, hopefully we will see you in a few days time.

Charles exits the boardroom and exhales

Fade out

KARMA

EXT/DAY/TAXI TO THE RAIN STATION

Charles is in a taxi sitting in traffic, he looks at his watch then looks at the traffic ahead

CHARLES

What the fucks going on

TAXI DRIVER

Looks like an accident up ahead, I hope no ones hurt

CHARLES

Well they better be with the amount of time they're taking, Jesus Christ come on.

TAXI DRIVER

Take it easy pal, it will move soon, these things happen everyday, you know if you don't take it easy you're gonna die a young man putting al this stress on yourself

CHARLES

What is this, free 30 minutes of counsel with every ride, listen I just want to catch my train, I'm on a schedule.

TAXI DRIVER

Yeah thats the killer tight there, you people and your schedules, never enough time to live life, always got to be doing something.... Here look see, were moving again

CHARLES

Good, now you can jus stick to driving.

The taxi arrives at the train station, Charles looks at his watch as he looks at the train information board, he has ten

(CONTINUED)

minutes, Charles goes to buy a coffee as he is in the queue someone comes up behind him, it's RICHIE.

RICHIE

I knew it was you

CHARLES turns around to see RICHIE

CHARLES

RICHIE, what you doing here?

RICHIE

I followed you here, I knew it was you, as soon as I logged on and saw the rates I knew you took that information I gave you

CHARLES

Hey I thought you was sharing?

RICHIE

Do you know what you've done, DO YOU!

CHARLES

Hey calm down, it's not the end of the world

RICHIE

It is for me, I was suppose to get that ring, but I didn't make the bonus I wanted, that I needed to make, so that ring is now gone, just like my relationship, you know what she said to me, she said if I can't even commit to a ring how would there be any hope for us in the future, so she left me, because of you. You and your greed for success

CHARLES

Listen I don't know what kind of messed up girls she was, but I did you a favour, come on, is not that serious

RICHIE takes out a gun and points it at CHARLES

RICHIE

I loved her....and you fucked it up for me.

CHARLES

Take it easy, listen it will be ok

RICHIE

No, NO it won't

RICHIE shoots at CHARLES then points the gun barrel under his chin and kills himself, screams echo the train station, Charles stands there and watches RICHIE drop to the ground, CHARLES looks around in shock, he looks down at his clothes but nothing was there, no blood, no wounds. CHARLES looks down in shock at RICHIE.

CUT TO CHARLES ON THE TRAIN

## INT/DAY/TRAIN

CHARLES is sitting on the train, he looks around at the other passengers, and then just stares out of the window as the train pulls away from the terminal, CHARLES picks up his coffee and drinks it. On his table in front of him if the files he has to get signed, his phone and his headphones, as the journey continues CHARLES looks at the file on the table and goes to pick it up as he does a woman drops her purse on the floor as she passes with her arms full of things, she looks at CHARLES and CHARLES bends down and picks up the purse, CHARLES stands up and they look at each other, CHARLES sees that her hands are full.

CHARLES

Why don't you show me where you are sitting and I'll help you

WOMAN

Thank you that would be nice

The woman leads the way and CHARLES follows, they get to the table and CHARLES puts the purse on to the table

WOMAN

Thank you again

CHARLES

It was nothing

WOMAN

Sorry, was you the man at the station where that man had a gun

CHARLES

ER, yeah

WOMAN

What a tragedy, I wonder what happened, why did he do that?

CHARLES

I don't know?

WOMAN

Did you know him?

CHARLES

No

CHARLES smiles at the woman then returns back to his seat, the train enters a tunnel and for a second the whole train is black, the light comes on and the train inspector is now standing in front of CHARLES who is shocked as he came from nowhere, the train inspector is a tall thin man with deep eyes and bushy eye brows

INSPECTOR

Tickets

CHARLES

Oh yeah sure sorry, here you go

The inspector looks at the ticket then at CHARLES

(CONTINUED)

INSPECTOR

Single ticket, running away are we

CHARLES

What do you mean, this should be a return

INSPECTOR

NO! Single.

The inspector hands the ticket back to CHARLES who looks at it confused.

CHARLES

Great, thanks Janice, another thing to sort out now.

CHARLES picks up his phone and calls the office but before it could ring the train goes into another tunnel

CHARLES

Fuck

CHARLES sits back in his seat and looks at the file, he takes it up and opens up and looks at the name GORDON KILLDEER. in the file proposals for the next five years, CHARLES skims over the requirements and regulations and comes across a paragraph which reads

THE SOUL OF THE SENDER WILL BE THE SACRIFICE FOR US TO CONTINUE AND PROSPER

Suddenly CHARLES sees a reflection in the train window of RICHIE, CHARLES turns around but no one is there, CHARLES closes the file and sits back while still in shock like he saw a ghost, he puts on his headphones and falls asleep.

Fade out

THE DREAM

INT /NIGHT/On the train

The train stops at a jolt waking CHARLES up, the lights in the carriage are flickering, CHARLES adjusts his eyes and looks around but there is no one on the train, CHARLES gets

(CONTINUED)

out of his seat and stands in the middle of the isle, he looks up and down into darkness, only the flickering light above him keeps him illuminated.

CHARLES

Where did everyone go? Did I miss my stop? Shit, where's my phone?

CHARLES checks his pockets for his phone, he takes it out as he does the phone rings, the name on the phone is RICHIE, Charles drops the phone in fear as a flashback of RICHIE sticking the gun barrel under his chin comes to him.

CHARLES goes to pick his phone up and notices that a light in another carriage come on, Charles can see a figure in the distance and he calls out to it.

CHARLES

Hey, hello, are you stuck to?

The figure in the next carriage puts his hand to his ear like he is on the phone, as he does CHARLES phone rings again with the same name on it, RICHIE, The figure in the carriage starts to walk towards CHARLES with the light above him coming on with each step, CHARLES panics and starts walking backwards, the figure starts approaching faster, CHARLES turns around and runs into another carriage into darkness, when he turns around the carriage he came from is gone and he is in total darkness, CHARLES is in a panic and is breathing heavily and begins to talk to himself.

CHARLES

Ok breath, what the hell is going on, what was that?

CHARLES takes out his phone, he puts the torch on and pans around the empty darkness, the torch does nothing, suddenly CHARLES hears a sound, he turns around shining his torch and RICHIE is in front of him with a hole in his face with blood and maggots Falling out of it, CHARLES looks at him with fear

CHARLES

I....It wasn't my fault

RICHIE

No, it never is, is it CHARLES? do you know who I am?

CHARLES

RICHIE?

RICHIE

No CHARLES this is just one of the many forms that I can appear as, do you know why you are here?

CHARLES

I don't know anymore

RICHIE

You are here to be tested

CHARLES

Tested, for what?

RICHIE

To see if you are worthy, worth of the life that you are living, worthy of greatness. You see I have been watching you for a great deal

CHARLES

Watching me? Why?

RICHIE

Because you are the one, the one that will make a difference, but we shall see if its all for the greater good or the otherwise, let us begin

RICHIES face returns back to normal ( without the head shot)

CHARLES

Why did you do it RICHIE, I didn't think taking that information would off lead to this. Why did you kill (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CHARLES (CONT'D)

yourself?

RICHIE

It's the only way I could get to tell you what I need to tell you without anyone else listening, here in this darkness, this is where it all began, life as we know it. Let me ask you something, before I shot myself I shot you didn't I

CHARLES

Yes, but you missed?

RICHIE

Did I? So when you awoke on the train did you think it was a dream or are you dead

CHARLES

I can't be dead

RICHIE

Do you remember getting onto the train?

CHARLES

No, but I can't be dead

RICHIE

Why not?

CHARLES now feels helpless and looks at Richie with pity

CHARLES

Are you here to take me to the other side

RICHIE

No CHARLES I am here with a request

CHARLES

A request from who

RICHIE

God almighty himself, since the beginning of time God and the Devil have compromised with each other, The devil will rule Hell and can influence people only but cannot interfere with the path of destiny, until one day God and the devil decided to play a game of chess using humans as chessboard pieces, I am one of those pieces as you are, the end game is simple, who ever wins is allowed to change a persons path, now this will either disrupt power or influence it to become greater.

CHARLES

So this is a game

RICHIE

Correct

CHARLES

And who's side are we on

## RICHIE

Why gods of course, I had to sacrifice you and then myself for the greater good, that was my role, now, what I tell you is what will change the game of life forever, the company that you work for are playing for the other side, they see your potential this is why they have sent you on this assignment to gather the signature of GORDON KILLDEER if you get this signature, the power is shifted to the dark side, this is how they make you sell your soul, buy doing their tasks, your reward for the signature is everything you have dreamed for, money, power, recognition, the words that you speak will change hearts and minds, (MORE)

RICHIE (CONT'D)

economies will fall for the wealthy to remain wealthy, you will have everything and anything what your hearts desire

CHARLES

And the catch?

RICHIE

You will never see heaven, you will never have peace, you will never see your loved ones again and even though that you will forever remember them and they will forget your existence, hell is where demons will hunt you forever, ripping you limb from limb on every capture, there will be no peace for you.

CHARLES

So what would I have to do

RICHIE

Soon you will be put back into the game, the best thing about a pawn in chess is that they can come back stronger and better, what you have to do is go to GORDON KILLDEERS residence and kill him

CHARLES

What

RICHIE

Did you not hear what I said

CHARLES

But I. I can't kill someone

RICHIE

Time is passing, soon you will have to make a choice, I can only leave you one more message, but now you have to go back into the game.

Richie turns away and fades into the darkness

CHARLES

Go, go where, where do I go

All of a sudden a bright light overpowers the darkness, CHARLES covers his eyes from the bright light

CHARLES IS BACK AT THE TRAIN STATION

CHARLES on the floor looking up at faces looking at him, he is lifted from the floor by a man,

MAN

Hey are you alright pal, it looked liked fo had a bad turn there.

CHARLES

What happened, where's RICHIE

MAN

Hey I don't know who RICHIE is, you was ordering your coffee and then fainted, maybe it was low sugar or something, you okay?

CHARLES

Yes, yes thanks you

CHARLES looks at the information board again, he has five minutes to get to the train, Charles makes his way to the platform and boards the train, he looks for his seat and finds it, he puts the file, his phone and headphones onto the table and takes a seat.

CHARLES looks at the file on the table and goes to pick it up as he does a woman drops her purse on the floor as she passes with her arms full of things, she looks at CHARLES and CHARLES bends down and picks up the purse, CHARLES stands up and they look at each other, CHARLES stares at the woman as she smiles at him

CHARLES

Why don't you show me where you are sitting and I'll help you

WOMAN

Thank you that would be nice

The woman leads the way and CHARLES follows, they get to the table and CHARLES puts the purse on to the table

CHARLES

There you go, you ok

WOMAN

Yes and thanks again for your help

CHARLES

You're welcome

WOMAN

Don't forget what you have to do.

CHARLES

Sorry what did you say

WOMAN

Nothing, why?

CHARLES

You said something

WOMAN

Oh I said thank again for your help

CHARLES

No after that

WOMAN

No I didn't say anything else

CHARLES stares uncomfortably at the woman

CHARLES

Sorry, I thought I heard something

WOMAN

Thats ok

CHARLES turns and heads back to his seat, as he walks up the isle everyone in their seat looks towards CHARLES.

The train hits a tunnel and the train is in darkness, the lights come on and the ticket inspector is in front of CHARLES

INSPECTOR

Tickets

CHARLES looks at the inspector and slowly reaches for his ticket, the inspector looks at the ticket

INSPECTOR

Thank you, oh and sir

CHARLES

Yes

INSPECTOR

Please store your bags in the luggage area

CHARLES looks at his seat and there is a small bag on it which wasn't there before, CHARLES sits down and slowly opens the bag, inside is a chess piece, a knight and a gun a 38 special, CHARLES closes the bag and ignores it, he looks up and down the train to see if anyone is watching him but sees no one.

For the whole journey Charles sits firmly still.

The train comes to it destination and CHARLES leaves the train, he walks outside of the station where a driver is holding up his name on a board, CHARLES walks to the driver, the driver opens the door and CHARLES gets in, in the back of the car CHARLES slowly takes the gun out of the bag and places it into this jacket.

The driver leaves the city and heads into the hills where a lonely house sits surrounded by a Great Wall and immaculate gardens, the main gates open and the car heads up the drive to the door, a butler opens the door for CHARLES to get out

BUTLER

Good afternoon sir, please follow me

Another helper takes CHARLES bag and CHARLES follows the butler into the grand house.

OUT OF A DREAM TO REALITY

INT/DAY/THE FINAL MEET

The Butler opens the grand double doors where GORDON KILLDEER is standing in his grand attire, the room is filled with books and a grand fireplace, in an pastry a cigar slowly burns, the butler walks in and introduces CHARLES

BUTLER

Mr CHARLES to see you sir

CHARLES walks in and the butler leaves closing the door behind him

CHARLES

Good afternoon sir

GORDON

How was your trip

CHARLES

Very good sir, it was a beautiful drive to your house

GORDON

I see you have some papers to sign for me

CHARLES

Yes I do

CHARLES

Well, let us begin

CHARLES approaches and puts the file onto the desk next to the cigar

GORDON

I've heard a lot about you CHARLES, you've been described as a very prominent member of the company, a rising star so to speak.

CHARLES

Thank you sir.

GORDON

Do you know what I do?

CHARLES

No sir

GORDON

Let's say this, I change the things that cannot be changed, I can provide and take away. The economics of this world can change in a heartbeat, for instants the power of technology is in china as the fuels of this world is in Saudi Arabia but imagine you had the power to change it, Africa it self is the wealthiest country on this planet as is south America yes the world never looks in that direction for resources, but this is where we as a company invest in, we hide our resources and keep them until it is time to change the infrastructure of the world, I need someone hungry and not afraid to make the decisions needed to make to ensure that this world of ours continues to be balanced and I'm wondering is (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

GORDON (CONT'D)

that you? So tell me, in this life of yours, what do you desire?

CHARLES

Money used to be my motivation, make enough to retire, settle, travel and enjoy life, but now I'm not so sure, I think I have a bigger purpose

GORDON

Purpose is good, so you're not persuaded by materialistic things I see, so if I was to offer you say 10 million dollars now for your loyalty and commitment you would refuse it

CHARLES

10 million

GORDON

Yes

CHARLES

No I wouldn't

GORDON

Why?

CHARLES

If you can offer 10 then you can offer more, plus when would I get to enjoy it, would I be able to do what I need to do in life or will I just have the money in the bank sitting there while I work for you

GORDON

I see, how about 20 million then

CHARLES

What would I have to do?

GORDON

Let me ask you, do you play chess?

CHARLES

Yes I learnt it as a child but I'm not very good

GORDON

Chess is life Charles come and join me, I'm in a middle of a game, see if you can help me make my next move

CHARLES and GORDON stand over a chess board, CHARLES looks at the play and sees something isn't right

GORDON

What don't you take that knight that you have and place it on the board

CHARLES looks at GORDON in surprise, he reaches into his pocket and and takes out the chess piece

CHARLES

How did you know?

GORDON

Chess is life, we have to make sacrifices to get where we need to be, a lot has been sacrificed just to have you here, so don't waste your next move, think about what is at stake here.

CHARLES puts the chess piece onto the board

CHARLES

Check!

GORDON smiles at the move

CHARLES

Your move

GORDON

Indeed.

The door to the room opens and CHARLES turns around to see who it is, walking towards him is RICHIE back from the dead, RICHIE walks up to CHARLES and puts a gun to his head

CHARLES

Richie!

GORDON

Heres my move, take the gun out of your pocket and point it at me

CHARLES turns to GORDON and slowly takes his gun out and points it at GORDON

GORDON

Good, now where were we, check!, if you shoot me you will gain everything I have, this life, the power, the wealth, the ability to control the world and all of its wealth, and when it is all over your soul will belong to me, however if you don't shoot, RICHIE will shoot you in the back of the head and the world will continue without you, You have a minute to think about it.

CHARLES

A minute

GORDON NODS

CHARLES

RICHIE was that all a dream or an intervention

RICHIE

Now is the time you choose the right path, I told you I have many forms

CHARLES

Many forms

CHARLES looks at GORDON

CHARLES

Tell me, how many forms do you have?

GORDON

None, what you see is what I am

RICHIE

It's time.

CHARLES looks at GORDON and lowers his gun and places it on the table next to the chess board.

CHARLES

Only the devil changes forms to tempt others into making the wrong decision.

GORDON smiles and nods, RICHIE lowers the gun

GORDON

Checkmate.

Fade out

End