THE SAFE

By

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EXT. INSIDE A LARGE WALK-IN SAFE - NIGHT

There are three guys in the safe, PSYCHO (50s), tall and lean; FATS (late 30’s) medium height, overweight, and TECHIE BOY (early 30’s) slim, short, spectacled, geeky.

PSYCHO
(Irritated)
Calculate, calculate...

FATS is agitated, pacing, holding clip-board & calculator

FATS
Take the footage 16x16 = 246, times the height, that’s 10 2460 cubed. We’ve been in here 45 minutes already...

PSYCHO
What’s the calculation...!

FATS
(Changing direction)
...human lung, human lung - we take in an average of x amount of air - now that’s times three. So the air’s reducing by x amount - basically guys that gives us x amount of time.

TECHIE BOY
(looks incredulous)
x amount?

PSYCHO
That’s not enough - they’re not going to open the place until 6 - the first check doesn’t happen till then.

FATS
We’re just going to have to do something - figure something out.

PSYCHO
Figure something? Figure what?
FATS
Plan.

TECHIE BOY
We can’t plan for anything, how can we plan? We’re stuck here.

Psycho speaks in a low voice, almost so that the others don’t hear – it is barely audible; he doesn’t want to say what he is about to say and he doesn’t want to be heard saying what he is about to say.

PSYCHO
Someone’s gotta go.

FATS
What?

TECHIE BOY
What did he just say?

Psycho speaks in a normal volume, so that everybody can hear; he speaks clearly and firmly.

PSYCHO
Someone has got to go.

TECHIE BOY
(Concerned)
What does he mean – someone’s got to go.

FATS
What do you mean PSYCHO? What do you mean, someone’s got to go?

PSYCHO
I think that it’s pretty clear what I mean. I think that, you both know what I mean, when I say that. I think you don’t WANT to know what I mean when I say that, but I think you both know what I mean.
TECHIE BOY
(lowers his voice, concerned)
What does he mean FATS?

FATS moves forwards, but at an angle to PSYCHO. He keeps his eyes firmly planted on him.

FATS
If he’s saying what I think he’s saying, then he’s kinda giving this whole deal a real dangerous spin. If he saying what I think that he’s saying, then he’s willing to do something that I never thought I’d be part of, and something that I’m not willing to be part of, something that I’m not willing to countenance, something that I’m rejecting, something that I’m going to rebel against, revolt against, and defend against.

TECHIE BOY
What’s he saying FATS?

FATS
One of us has gotta die. That’s the only way that two of us are going to get out of here. He doesn’t want it to be him. He wants to choose. He wants it to be someone else. He doesn’t want it to be him.

TECHIE BOY
Gotta die? Die? Has to? What’s he talking about?

PSYCHO
The choice seems to be pretty clear to me guys.

FATS
Seems clear or is clear? I gotta say you need to make your mind up on these things, it’s like there really isn’t room for error on this one, if you’re saying what I think you’re saying, and I really do think that you are saying just
what you’re saying.

**PSYCHO**
You did that the math’s, you fat f*ck.

**FATS**
Yeah, and it looks like I’d better do the morality too.

**PSYCHO**
We all stay here, together, then we all die together. Like I said someone’s gotta die. Someone in here, maybe all of us in here, well, aint going to get out of here. Here’s your morality - want three lives on you hands, or one?

**FATS**
Here’s your morality - I aint going to take a life. You think you’re going to make me?

**PSYCHO**
(Determined)
Here’s your morality - I’m just asking you to not stand in the way.

**TECHIE BOY**
WOW! It’s like, excuse me for one second, just one, but like, when were things decided, it just sounds like some things have been decided, and like, I just get this feeling that I’ve kinda missed the point at when they were decided, when the decision was made, and I’m like, not totally happy to be, it’s look like, on the receiving end of something?

**PSYCHO**
Yeah, you got it right, somehow, I don’t know, but somewhere along some line, you got it right, it just got decided, you were sh*tty guy, you just looked right, you just sounded right, you just were right, and you got your place.
FATS
You’re not going to touch him.

TECHIE BOY
FATS?

PSYCHO
Yeah, you got so relieved, you got your part - you hang onto that...

FATS moves closer to TECHIE BOY, in a protective gesture.

PSYCHO (CONT’D)
You know what to do, you know what your reward’s going to be.

TECHIE BOY
(Takes a step back)
Fats, you aint going to let nothing happen now, I got that straight aint I?

TECHIE BOY looks at PSYCHO, with head titled toward FATS, but his eyes are fixed on PSYCHO. FATS moves toward the space in between PSYCHO and TECHIE BOY. The gauntlet has been thrown.

INT. MONITORING ROOM - NIGHT
Three guys are in the upstairs monitoring room. They are looking at a number of small TV monitors. STRAIGHT (late 20’s white male) and ASIAN (mid 20’s slim Bangladeshi) are sitting in front of the TV monitors, and CARS (early 20’s, slim Caribbean) is standing behind them, leaning forward between the two chairs, also looking, fixated, on the TV monitors. Their eyes are wide open and they have ‘varying degrees of grins’ on their faces like they are watching a key moment in a football match, and their side is about to score.

STRAIGHT
Wow. They have got to be getting so wound up.

ASIAN
Man. I can’t believe we haven’t got volume, that would be so cool - I’d love
to know what they are saying!

CARS
(Laughing)
PSYCHO’S probably just threatening to
kick their heads in.

ASIAN
He looks like he’s sh*tting himself,
don’t he, TECHIE BOY…

STRAIGHT
Yeah, he probably is.

CARS
They’re going to be fuming, mate.

ASIAN
Yeah, serves ‘em right I say.

CARS
Wasse doing, now?

ASIAN
Who? PSYCHO?

CARS
Nah – FATS

STRAIGHT
(Leans forward)
He’s getting in between them,
something’s going off...

ASIAN
It’s going to happen, man, it going to
kick off big style...

CARS
He just pushed him, PSYCHO, did you see
that, he just pushed FATS out the way.
STRAIGHT
Ooh, they’re going to start rucking,
here we go boys, it’s kick off!

ASIAN
Wow! He floored him! Pushed him right
onto his fat arse.

CARS
Get up fat boy!

STRAIGHT
He’s after TECHIE BOY...

ASIAN
What, did he upset him?

CARS
What’s he after TECHIE BOY for, what’s
he done?

ASIAN
That’s it fat boy!

STRAIGHT
Look at FATS, man, he’s doing himself
proud aint he?

ASIAN
Ooooh, he’s got TECHIE BOY, ha! Now he’s
had it!

CARS
What!? What’s he doing, man?

STRAIGHT
What!?

ASIAN
Oh. Oh. Hold it there man, what’s
happening? What’s he doing?
STRAIGHT
Wow. He’s strangling him! What’s his game?

CARS
Guys. Guys, we better get down there, this is going sh*t shaped quick style.

All three jump up and rush out of the room, and into the corridor; they race down the stairs, down towards the safe-room.

INT. INSIDE THE SAFE

PSYCHO is stood up, looking down towards the still figure of TECHIE BOY. FATS is also stood still looking down at the still figure of TECHIE BOY. Both are breathing heavily like they have just run half a mile.

FATS
You killed him, you sick piece of crap. You just killed an innocent guy. He’s dead, and you did it. You took his life to save your own putrid ass.

Remaining motionless, FATS’ eyes divert to PSYCHO - they look angry and dangerous.

PSYCHO
You’re going to thank me in the morning.

FATS
(Furious)
THANK YOU! THANK YOU???

FATS moves toward PSYCHO, but stops after one step.

FATS (CONT’D)
(Spits the words out)
You’re a sick sh*t! What in hell makes you think that we are both going to walk out of here? What makes you think that have not started some sequence of events that you aint in control of anymore?
PSYCHO
One word, you world of fat. And that’s motivation. Motive. You aint got it any more. However you may disagree, I had reason on my side, I had a reason for doing what I did.

PSYCHO Remains still, but his eyes divert to FATS.

PSYCHO (CONT’D)
And my reason was survival. You did the math’s. Get the math’s wrong? I don’t think you did. I think you knew the math’s. I took a choice faced with impossible, impossible...

FATS
You didn’t know that someone might of...

The door to the safe opens. STRAIGHT, CARS, and ASIAN walk in.

STRAIGHT
What the f*ck have you done?

CARS
What’s happened to TECHIE BOY?

FATS
Oh! Thanks f*ck for you guys.

PSYCHO
What are...

FATS
(interrupts PSYCHO)
This f*ck just killed this guy

ASIAN
We saw it man...
PSYCHO
You saw it?

FATS
You saw what he did? You know what this guy did?

CARS
Yeah we saw the whole thing...

PSYCHO
How did you see the whole thing..?

STRAIGHT
Guys, guys, it was like...

ASIAN
It was a joke, meant to be...

CARS
We was winding you up.

PSYCHO
A joke?

FATS
A joke? What joke?

TECHIE BOY
Guys?

PSYCHO
This was a joke?

FATS
What kind of f*cking joke? What’s the joke, I don’t...

STRAIGHT
A wind up...
TECHIE GUY
Guys..?

ASIAN
It was a wind up guys, nothing serious.

FATS
You think it was a f*cking wind up? Do you know what I’m locked in here with? Do you really now what he did? What he tried to do...

ASIAN
Oh, he’s ok.

PSYCHO
It’s ok.

FATS
It aint ok.

TECHIE BOY
Yeah... guys?

STRAIGHT
It’s f*cked up, man, it’s really f*cked up.

PSYCHO
It’s ok.

TECHIE BOY
Guys?

FATS
You think this is ok? It’s like only attempted murder, he only like tried to kill the guy, and it’s like, it’s ok? How is it ok?

CARS
(To TECHIE BOY)
You getting up?
TECHIE BOY
Yeah, I’m like…

PSYCHO
It aint going anywhere.

ASIAN
It can’t go anywhere, it’s just like here, that’s as far as it can go.

TECHIE BOY Gets up.

FATS
This aint ending here, there’s no way that this is ending here.

STRAIGHT
Well it aint going anywhere else. What’re you going to do? Tell someone?

PSYCHO
Who’re going to tell?

They make their way out of the safe, talking, and recriminating, arguing and answering back.

FADE OUT:

THE END