

THE DUTCH LION

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. CLUB - CORRIDOR - NIGHT

1968 MUSIC is audible in the club.

In the dark, tall ALEX King(28) sits on a bar stool, looking bored as hell.

INT. CLUB - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Drunk BOBBY stands HUMMING at a urinal. His peeing is as bad as his outfit. Pee HITS the white marble floor.

ZIP UP. Bobby gangster-waddles to a condom vending machine. He folds a hundred-dollar bill.

BOBBY
(sings)
We can get much higher

He pushes it into the coin slot. A packet of coke drops into the receiving tray.

BOBBY (CONT'D)
Come on, foxes light my fire.

He bends over, grabs the packet, and opens it.

BOBBY (CONT'D)
Time to set the world on

Bobby comes up doing a hip-shake

BOBBY (CONT'D)
FIRE!

WHAM, he hits the deck. His coke-covered head CRACKS on the tiles. The empty packet PLOPS down next to him.

CLICK. Bobby's head, surrounded by a blood "halo" stain, makes him look like a dying saint. Bobby's eyes turn up, trying to look at something behind him.

Upside down Alex stands behind a hole in the wall of the open vending machine.

ALEX
Are you okay, man?

INT. CLUB - OFFICE - NIGHT

Irishman MALLOY O'Brien (45), at a desk, looks at a small wall of security monitors on a desk. The desk lamp flickers.

MALLOY
What the hell?

He grabs a walkie-talkie.

MALLOY (CONT'D)
Plug the hole ye twerp!

He grabs another walkie-talkie.

EXT. CLUB - NIGHT

ACE King (32) stands smoking on the street, next to a line of people, under the KINGS QUARTER sign. His gloved hand brings a cigarette to his mouth. A walkie-talkie hanging on his belt, next to cuffs, CRACKLES.

MALLY (V.O.)
Ace, bathroom NOW!

His cig hits the sidewalk cellar doors. He's on the move.

INT. CLUB - HALL - NIGHT

Ace pushes passed people standing in front of the wardrobe window on the right, past security and double doors.

INT. CLUB - MAIN AREA - NIGHT

Ace fast walks through a dancing crowd in the revamped old warehouse. Cop BAXTER watches him from the bar along the right wall.

INT. CLUB - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Alex sits crouched down, supporting Bobby's head. Ace SLAMS the door open, the door-closer SQUEAKS, and LOUD MUSIC enters.

ALEX
(warning)
Ace

Ace is already on Alex. He DRAGS him to the hole,

ALEX (CONT'D)

No!

and PUSHES him through it.

INT. CLUB - CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Alex LANDS ass-first on a hatch. Stuck in the small space, he looks like a "man assembly package gone wrong", sitting against a door.

ALEX
AUCH MOTHER

The vending machine SLAMS shut.

ALEX (CONT'D)
HE NEEDS A DOCTOR!

At the top of the stairs, Malloy looks at Alex through a slowly expanding crevice.

MALLOY (V.O.)
(hissing)
Shut your pie hole ya big oaf!

He disappears.

INT. CLUB - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Ace picks up the coke packet, GRABS Bobby by the scruff, and DRAGS him to a toilet, creating a blood skid mark across the floor.

BOBBY
Sorry, mister King, please

Ace DUNKS his head in the toilet. He BLOWS BUBBLES.

ACE
If it happens again

SQUEAK - LOUD MUSIC

A nerdy guy enters, staring at the bloody floor and Ace, holding a soaked Bobby GASPING for air.

ACE (CONT'D)
I'll break your sucker.

Nerdy knows enough and leaves before the door SQUEAKS SHUT.

INT. CLUB - MAIN AREA - NIGHT

Cop Baxter watches Nerdy go. He talks into his walkie-talkie.

INT. CLUB - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Ace's walkie-talkie CRACKLES.

MALLOY (V.O.)

Cop coming!

Ace drops the coke packet in the bowl and FLUSHES.

ACE

Mention snow, and I break
everything.

Ace kicks Bobby in the nuts. Now Bobby SQUEAKS. WHEEZING, he tries to catch his breath.

BOBBY

Uh-huh. Total blackout.

Ace spots Alex's bloody footsteps leading to the secret hole.

ACE

Shit!

He rips Bobby's jacket off him, dunks it in the toilet, slides across the floor, and blurs the footprints to a bloody mess. Bobby stumbles to the door. SQUEAK, LOUD MUSIC.

ACE (CONT'D)

Hey!

Ace throws the wet jacket to Bobby. SPLAT it hits incoming Baxter in the chest and FLOPS onto the ground.

BOBBY

Whoops

Bobby picks it up. He looks at Baxter's uniform. He grins.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Nurses

Bobby scurries off.

BAXTER

What happened?

Baxter stands with one hand on his gun, and one on his belt.

ACE

I don't know. I heard him puke and flush. He came out the stall like that. He must have pushed the flush button while he was barfing.

Baxter gets on his toes for a moment before his feet stay grounded.

BAXTER

And that?

His face nods towards the bloody skid marks. Baxter stares at Ace for an answer.

ACE

The reason for puking? Why are you asking me? I have to bounce.

Ace passes Baxter - SQUEAK - opens the door to LOUD MUSIC and startled scrawny police officer FRANK

FRANK

Oh

Ace leaves. Frank's owl eyes (due to the very thick glasses he wears) stare at the bloody floor.

FRANK (CONT'D)

What happened?

BAXTER

What took you so long?

INT. CLUB - CORRIDOR - NIGHT

SQUEAK

Alex sits on the floor, rubbing his head. Malloy comes down the steps of the now completely open hatch.

MALLOY

(whispers)

Why don't you just permanently wear a T-shirt that says Kings funny flour distributor on it ye gobshite! Focking hell, you have trains for brains.

ALEX

(whispers)

A man was bleeding from his skull!

MALLOY

(whispers)

So you open the door to the cops
and our jail cells like you're
going out for a stroll? No! You
tell ME, ya idiot. You may have the
name King, but you'll never be one.
That's for fecking sure.

ALEX

(whispers)

Oh shut up. Dad never asked me if I
wanted to take over. He asked me if
I wanted to be a part of his
family.

COINS DROP The men go quiet. Alex holds his hand out to
Malloy, blocking a condom tray. Malloy hands one to Alex, who
drops it in the receiving tray.

WOMAN (V.O.)

Ladies and gentlemen, this is the
last song of the night. Enjoy.

Malloy tip-toes back up the stairs.

MALLOY

(whispers)

Stupid bastard.

INT. CLUB - OFFICE - NIGHT

Malloy comes up out of the floor. In the dark the silhouette
of Irish drug lord LOU King (70) is visible, standing in
front of a two-way mirrored wall.

He looks at the inside of his nightclub, like he's in a dark
museum, looking at a larger-than-life, "motion picture"
painting.

MALLOY (O.C)

The cops are on our ass twenty-four
seven, and he opens the fecking
door. He can't do it, Lou. You have
to let Ace take over by himself.
He's too soft.

INT. CLUB - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Alex's eye peers through the coin slot. An "out of order"
sign slides over a "rubber is hip" poster hanging above the
condom vending machine.

INT. CLUB - OFFICE - NIGHT

Malloy's silhouette joins Lou's. Through Lou's eyes, we see Ace down in the club.

LOU (O.C.)

He has seen war. That changes a person.

Through Lou's eyes, we see Ace approach African American PHILOMENA. Her long hair sways as she dances in a world of her own.

Alex comes up out off the floor, holding cash. Malloy spots him.

MALLOY

Who cares what the reason is? Ya can't make chicken soup out of chicken shite. It's not in his blood.

Lou sees Philomena turn round to give the man a piece of her mind. When she sees Ace, she abandons the idea, smiling uncomfortably. Ace returns a toothache smile.

LOU (O.C.)

Don't ever call him that again!

MALLOY

Sorry.

LOU

I am nothing like my dad, and I did just fine. And Ace isn't perfect either. Remember the "let's cut the coke up as much as possible and increase profits"?

Alex smiles. Lou sees Ace make his way through the crowd, then disappear out the bottom frame of the "motion picture painting."

MALLOY

We'd all be in jail right now if it wasn't for Ace.

INT. CLUB - STAIRWAY - NIGHT

Ace walks upstairs.

INT. CLUB - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Ace comes up to a door, reaches for the handle

LOU (O.C.)
I think I should decide on what to
do with it all.

His hand stops moving.

LOU (O.C.) (CONT'D)
And I think that Ace is all brawn,
which is not the way to go either.
I believe together they'll make one
perfect heir.

INT. PSYCHIATRIST'S OFFICE - DAY

A ten-year-old Ace sits in a chair across from child
psychiatrist LILLY (28) ,looking at his shoes.

LILLY
Ace, could you tell me about your
relationship with your mother?

Ace looks up angrily.

LILLY (CONT'D)
What would a day in your home look
like? What would it be like to walk
in your shoes?

ACE
(Acting along)
Okay, well, imagine that when you
come home and open the door...

INT. HOME - HALL - DAY

Lilly stands in a door opening wearing Ace's shoes. Ace's mom
DEBBIE comes out of a bedroom drunk. She punches her hand
into Lilly's chest and rips her heart out. She cackles at
Lilly, then, with her teeth, tears a part off and chews it
up. She throws the rest on the floor and kicks it around like
she's playing football, shrieking with joy as she goes.
Finally, she leaps in the air to jump on it.

INT. PSYCHIATRIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Lilly is appalled.

LILLY

Stop!

INT. CLUB - OFFICE - NIGHT

Alex pulls the ceiling van cord four times.

CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK

The furniture and men slowly slide to the right. The floor is moving. Steel wall paneling that was closing off the office door moved out of the way. The hole in the floor closes. Lou turns to Alex.

LOU (O.C.)

Alex, you can't ever open the vending machine, unless there's a fecking fire going on. Do I make myself clear?

ALEX

Yes, dad. It won't happen again.
(To Malloy)
Three and a half thou.

He hands the money to Malloy.

LOU

Oh feck me pills.

The office door OPENS. Ace stands there. The shadows on his face created by overhead lighting make him look evil. He stares at Lou opening a breath mint tin.

LOU (CONT'D)

God, I am lost without her.

He throws the pills back and smiles.

LOU (CONT'D)

Minty fresh.

He notices Ace.

LOU (CONT'D)

Ace, good save. But! Did you do it without punching or kicking?

MALLOY

He saved our asses!

LOU

(to Ace)

It would help if you use your gob before serving a knuckle supper. We could get sued. I told you this a million fecking times. You'll both work a week without pay.

Lou walks past a pissed-off Ace. Malloy hands Ace 500 dollars.

MALLOY

Great job.

Ace leaves the office. Malloy gets in Alex's face.

MALLOY (CONT'D)

If you open that thing again for anything other than a flippin' emergency, I will drag your face across every urinal and toilet seat we got, condom king.

INT. CLUB - MAIN AREA - NIGHT

MALLOY (O.C.)

And another thing!

Ace walks across the club through the double doors.

ACE

All brawn.

INT. CLUB - OFFICE - NIGHT

Malloy slaps two hundred and fifty bucks into Alex's hand.

MALLOY

Whack job.

Alex bows as they did for kings in the old days.

ALEX

(In Dutch)

Your prick-ship.

MALLOY

I am going to look that up.

They leave the office.

ALEX (O.C.)
 Oh yeah? What letter did it start
 with?

The DOOR CLOSES. The furniture moves.

MALLOY (O.C.)
 Asshole.

INT. CLUB - BATHROOM - NIGHT

- SQUEAK - Alex comes in; reaching for the light switch when he spots Ace closing the vending machine. He holds out a plastic bag with a condom logo on it.

ACE
 Hold it, will ya?-my shoelace.

Alex grabs the bag, feeling its weight.

ACE (CONT'D)
 Booze.

ALEX
 I assumed it would all go to you.

ACE
 I'll be out in a sec. Shit's
 knocking.

INT. CLUB - MAIN AREA - NIGHT

Alex SIGHS as he walks across the club and through the doors.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Malloy smokes a cigarette sitting in a car. Then, spots Alex walking out of the Kings Quarter with the "condom" bag.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

MALLOY
 The little crumb grabber.

Malloy watches Alex open a Buick Skylark's door and put the bag under the driver's seat. Then Ace locking up the club.

MALLOY (CONT'D)
 I'll get you, you little prick.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Alex spots Philomena coming out of a coffee shop. Men's heads turn as she walks over.

PHILOMENA

My King.

Alex opens the passenger car door.

ALEX

My queen.

As Philomena kisses Alex and gets in, Ace comes out of the alley next to the King's Quarter.

MAN'S VOICE (O.S)

She should be sitting in the back.

Alex looks at a man in his sixties, smoking, with a smug look on his face.

ALEX

Well, Brown vs. Board, the Civil Rights Act and the

The man sees Ace coming. He drops his cigarette, CRUSHES it with his foot. and walks on. Ace gets in the car with Alex.

ALEX (CONT'D)

All men, as in people, are created equal! (whispers) Jerk.

EXT. VILLA OF ACE - NIGHT

Ace stands next to the Skylark, looking in at Philomena.

ALEX (O.C.)

Your bag.

He smiles at her, without looking at him.

ACE

Leave it in there. Great dancing tonight, Philomena. You could be on American Bandstand with that.

PHILOMENA

Thank you. Good night Ace.

ALEX

Good night Ace.

Ace walks up the garden path, spinning his cuffs.

PHILOMENA
Did something happen?

ALEX
Yeah. He overheard something he
didn't like.

EXT. SUBURB - NIGHT

The Skylark drives up the driveway of a charming wooden family home.

INT. NIGHTLY HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Alex looks around the outdated but cozy living room for someone.

ALEX
Hello Ms. Nightly!

Philomena hangs her coat up and sets her shoes down.

INT. NIGHTLY HOME - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Philomena's grandmother, African American ELENORE Nightly, (73) grabs a jug of iced tea from the fridge.

ELENORE
I'm in the kitchen. Did you bring
my girl home safe, King?

INT. NIGHTLY HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Philomena and Alex smile at each other.

ALEX
Yes ma'am.

INT. NIGHTLY HOME - KITCHEN - NIGHT

ELENORE
Hmm.

Alex sticks his face around the kitchen door.

ALEX

I wouldn't dare show my face
otherwise.

Philomena and Alex enter the kitchen smiling.

PHILOMENA

That must have earned him a slice
of apple pie.

Elenore looks at the dust on the back of Alex's suit.
Philomena's smile fades.

ALEX

Ace pushed me, and I fell.

ELENORE

They're such a lovely family.

ALEX

I'm adopted. (he smiles) Mrs.
Nightly, can I marry Philomena yet?

ELENORE

No. (to Philomena) Pack up the
slice for him.

With a heavy heart, Philomena cuts a slice off the apple pie.

ALEX

Food is the way to a man's heart
so, maybe I shouldn't take it.
Seeing as you made it, Mrs.
Nightly. I might fall in love with
you too.

Elenore raises an eyebrow at Alex, keeping a straight face.
Philomena can't watch and nervously packs up the pie slice.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I think I will start the car up
while I wait for the pie-that way I
am not here when you two start
fighting over me.

Alex goes outside. Elenore shows a tiny smile. When Philomena
turns towards her, it has gone.

EXT. NIGHTLY HOME - NIGHT

Philomena walks down the porch steps, holding the packed
piece of pie.

ALEX
Can I marry her now, Mrs. Nightly?

ELENORE (O.C.)
No!

Philomena looks at Alex's pants, noticing that the fabric at the knees is dirty.

ALEX
I fainted--fell flat on my face
between the daises. Two women, the
idea!

Alex brushes the dirt of his knees.

ALEX (CONT'D)
I heard a noise. I just checked to
ensure I don't get blamed for
killing the neighbor's cat while
backing out of the driveway.

Philomena smiles and gives Alex the piece of the pie.
Suddenly she starts to cry.

ALEX (CONT'D)
O honey. She'll come around.
(giggles) She'll have to.

ELENORE (O.S)
Philomena?

Philomena is nervous again.

PHILOMENA
Coming!

Alex pins Philomena up against the car, and kisses her passionately. Then, he pulls back, showing her that the piece of apple pie is still in perfect nick. She laughs nervously through her tears.

ALEX
See you Monday.

Philomena nods as she touches her necklace in thought as Alex drives off.

INT. BUICK SKYLARK - DAY

Alex drives with Ace beside him.

ALEX

I miss mom's cooking.

ACE

I don't. Stew every freaking time.

ALEX

She made the best stews.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

The Skylark drives into a parking space.

INT. BUICK SKYLARK - DAY

ACE

Takeout is where it's at. Pork

He smiles in thought.

ACE (CONT'D)

No. A burrito.

ALEX

Like a burrito is something extraordinary.

ACE

It look likes shit, but when you dig into it, it's so good.

A coin drops. Alex's face too.

ALEX

You're not talking about food.

ACE (O.C.)

How do you say "baby food" in Dutch?

ALEX

But yet you keep staring at it. So excuse me if I stop listening to the man who still plays with his food.

Alex flicks Ace's cuffs and gets out of the car.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I'll get you your usual. Ugh, that sounds disgusting now.

EXT. DINER - DAY

Alex sighs as he enters the diner, passing African American waitress MINNIE (22) taking a packet of cigarettes out of her apron.

INT. BUICK SKYLARK - DAY

In the side mirror, we see a smoking Ace nonchalantly glancing into the side mirror.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Alex carries four bags of food past Minnie, who's staring at something.

BAXTER(O.C.)

Put your hands on the car Alex.

Alex sees Baxter, smiling like the cat's got the cream, holding up Ace's condom bag. Ace is getting coughed by Frank.

BAXTER (CONT'D)

We got an anonymous tip about stolen condoms.

Alex puts the bags of food on the roof of the car. Then places his hands next to them. He laughs.

ALEX

We sell condoms. You know that.

MINNIE

You can't look around in someone's car without a warrant.

BAXTER

HEY, stop interfering with police business! (to Alex) Let's see what is in the bag, shall we?

Baxter's hand takes a box of condoms and a bottle of whiskey out and places it on the car's roof. He opens the box of condoms. It's filled with packets of cocaine.

BAXTER (CONT'D)

Well, well, well.

Alex looks at Ace, staring at the roof.

BAXTER (CONT'D)

What a shame to waste good takeout.
But you've got more important
things to do now. Like prepping
your asshole for friendly visits.

ALEX

(to Ace)

That's your bag.

BAXTER

It was in your car, under your
seat.

ALEX

Ace!

Ace eyes spell "resolve."

BAXTER

You have the right to remain
silent. Anything you say can and
will be used against you in a court
of law. You have the right to an
attorney; if you cannot afford one,
one will be appointed to you. Do
you understand these rights as I
have read them to you?

ALEX

It's not mine!

BAXTER

Do you understand these rights?

ALEX

It is not my bag!

BAXTER

(loud)

Do you understand these rights?

ALEX

Yes! Ace, tell them! Ace, you
mother fucker! (to Baxter) It is
not mine!

Baxter grabs his baton and hits Alex over the head with it.
He goes down.

MINNIE

Hey, you can't hit him. He is not
resisting arrest.

(MORE)

MINNIE (CONT'D)

Therefore, you are violating his constitutional rights.

BAXTER

Go back inside!

MINNIE

You are not the boss of me, man. You searched his car without a reason or a warrant AND hit him for no reason. I am his witness.

ALEX

You have to let me go!

BAXTER

Don't tell me what to do, boy.

Baxter cuffs the dazed Alex and puts him in his car. Frank helps Ace into the Skylark.

MINNIE

I see you.

BAXTER

Yeah, well, keep looking. Who are you going to call?

MINNIE

Karma. (soft) Your next coffee here is going to be a health risk.

BAXTER

(To Frank)

You take the suspect. I'll follow in the perp's car.

FRANK

Yup.

Frank grabs the bags off the roof and gets into the cop car. He takes a gross bite out of a burger.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Look at me. I am eating stolen food. Quick, someone arrest me!

He laughs with an open mouth full of food as he drives off. Baxter makes his way over to Minnie, nervously holding her ground. He gets in her face.

BAXTER

Now witness this.

A gun pricks into her belly.

BAXTER (CONT'D)
You didn't see anything.

He leaves a terrified Minnie.

INT. COP CAR - day

ALEX
(mumbles)
I want to talk to an attorney.

FRANK
Oh, sure, you can cry on his
shoulder for a bit.

INT. POLICE OFFICE - DAY

A hippie-looking cop looks up from his desk as a screaming Alex and silent Ace are brought in.

ALEX
I didn't do it!

INT. CLUB - MAIN AREA - DAY

Malloy and Lou sit in a seating area, drinking.

LOU
I don't get it. They are always on
time.

A door opens. Ace walks in with a smiling Baxter behind him, pointing his gun and waving a warrant. Then Frank and his gun.

BAXTER
Hello King Lou. (to Malloy) Monkey.
Get up. (to Fred) Check them.

Baxter sits down across from Lou. He pets down Lou and Malloy. Then, he takes a gun away from Malloy.

LOU
What are you doing here?

BAXTER
We just caught Alex with a key of
coke. He won't be coming home.

Malloy and Lou look at Ace.

BAXTER (CONT'D)
Oh sure. You tell them.

ACE
We were getting food. Baxter searched the car because he got an anonymous tip and found a bag under Alex's seat with a key of coke in it. They arrested Alex.

Lou and Malloy are baffled.

BAXTER
And now we have a warrant which allows us to tear this place and all your homes apart. So, let's start by taking Frank to the security monitors.

Lou gestures to Malloy to comply.

MALLOY
Come on, gorgeous.

INT. CLUB - OFFICE - DAY

BAXTER
I'll have a whiskey.

Lou looks at Ace.

LOU
Get him one.

Ace does as he's told. Frank comes back with a stack of tapes.

LOU (CONT'D)
So, the dynamic duo will tear it all up? With their bare hands, will they? Just the two of you?

Ace gives Baxter his whiskey. He smiles.

BAXTER
We can report that your place is clean. So you can continue your business as usual if we got fifty percent of the takings.

LOU
Malloy, frisk them for wee gadgets.

Malloy pets them down. He nods.

MALLOY
Clean dirty pigs.

LOU
Let my son go, and I'll agree.

BAXTER
That's not possible. Alex has already entered the system. He's the reason we got the warrant. You should have done a better job raising him, like explaining to him that driving around with a key of coke under your seat isn't a good idea.

Baxter chucks the whiskey back and gets up.

LOU
I want to see my son.

BAXTER
You are not allowed near him, I'm afraid. You know, being a drug boss and all. But you can see him in jail during visiting hours. So, we will be here, every Monday, to collect.

He starts waking to the door, stops, and turns.

BAXTER (CONT'D)
By the way, how do you do it?

LOU
The condom machine.

BAXTER
That's what I figured. Come on, Frank.

Baxter and Frank leave. The door FALLS SHUT.

LOU
Like he knew. Arrogant prick.

Malloy walks off. Lou looks at Ace.

LOU (CONT'D)
How could this happen?

Ace shrugs.

LOU (CONT'D)

This can't be real, can it? They've
planted it on him.

Malloy comes back.

MALLOY

The coke is gone.

Lou gets up.

LOU

Show me yesterday's tapes.

INT. CLUB - OFFICE - DAY

Malloy, Lou, and Ace stand looking at a security monitor. On the screen: Alex emerges from the bathroom, walks across the club, holding the bag, and out through the door.

LOU

Jesus Mary Joseph.

After a few minutes, the lights in the club go out. Lou sits down, beat.

ACE

I am going to get something to eat.
You want something?

LOU

No. I've just lost me appetite.

Malloy shakes no, staring at the screen. A door CLOSES.

MALLOY

Why would he be so stupid?

Malloy looks up to see he's alone. He sits down, gets his cigarettes out, and presses rewind.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

A nervous Alex sits at a table next his appointed lawyer AVELAR. At the plaintiff, table sit Baxter and prosecutor BARITONE.

ALEX

I still need to get my one phone
call.

AVELAR

The local mob doesn't get any.

Baxter smiles. Doors SLAM open. Female JUDGE BHATT rushes in. Everyone stands up.

JUDGE BHATT

(to a bailiff)

Has he been sworn in?

BAILIFF

Yes, your honor.

She climbs the bench.

JUDGE BHATT

Proceed, prosecutor Baritone.

BARITONE

Judge, we know you have a lot of things to do, so I will get right to it. (to Alex) Mister King, the police found a bag containing a key of cocaine in your car with your fingerprints on it. How do you plead?

ALEX

Not guilty. It is my brother's bag. I held the bag for him because he was tying a shoelace. I put it in the car for him without knowing what was in it. He always wears gloves. (Alex points at Baxter and Frank) They searched my car without a reason or a warrant.

JUDGE BHATT

Silence. Your family history is reason enough. The law in Michigan is strict when it comes to cocaine. The only way for you to get a lesser sentence is if you make a deal. You are a little cog in a big machine. If you give us the information we want about where the drugs came from, and who the buyers and sellers are, you will get a lesser sentence.

Baxter and Frank's faces tense up.

AVELAR

This is your chance.

ALEX
 (to the judge)
 I do not know what you are talking
 about.

AVELAR
 (whispers)
 What are you doing? This is your
 only shot.

ALEX
 (whispers)
 I am a lion, not a rat.

A frustrated Avelar throws his paperwork in his bag. Baxter
 and Frank smile.

JUDGE BHATT
 Mister King, I hereby sentence you
 to life in prison with a
 possibility of parole.

The gavel SLAMS down on the wood. Alex jumps up

ALEX
 No! I did not do it! Ace did it. I
 didn't do it! Please!

JUDGE BHATT
 Security!

Court security men grab Alex and take him away, SCREAMING,
 resisting walking.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

A crappy-looking Malloy sits on the last bench, holding a
 little radio. Over the radio:

MAN (V.O.)
 We've just heard the latest news
 from the courthouse where Alex King
 has stood trial.

A little old lady leaves the church glaring at Lou lighting a
 second prayer candle. He sits down next to Malloy.

MAN (V.O.)
 Alex King has been sentenced to
 life with a possibility of parole.

The men sit a gasp.

LOU
Oh my God.

MAN (V.O.)
And now on with the weather.

LOU
Please turn it off.

Malloy does.

LOU (CONT'D)
Oh my God.

MALLOY
Lou

Lou looks at him

MALLOY (CONT'D)
I made the call to the cops.

LOU
You what?

Lou raises his hand. Malloy tears up. Lou lowers his hand.

MALLOY
I saw him walking with the bag. I
just thought he had taken some
condoms.

LOU
You fecking idiot.

MALLOY
Listen, I've been looking at the
tapes all night. I saw Ace walking
across the club, and through the
hallway door, then Alex going to
the bathroom, and coming out with
the bag. Then about five minutes
later, the lights are turned off,
and I see Ace coming outside, and
locking up.

LOU
I saw that. I don't want to talk
about this now.

MALLOY

Just listen Lou, the more I watched it the more I couldn't understand why Ace waited so long to lock up after Alex had left.

LOU

Maybe he was smoking.

MALLOY

You can walk with a cigarette. And remember, he was in the hallway already. This morning I watched them again and I noticed something. Just before the lights are turned off the door of the cloakroom moves. Why? It doesn't make sense. Unless...

We see what Malloy is explaining:

INT. CLUB - CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Ace enters through the door, opens the vending machine, enters the bathroom, and closes the vending machine.

Fast forward...

The vending machine opens, ace climbs into the corridor. He closes the vending machine, and heads up the stairs.

INT. CLUB - OFFICE - NIGHT

Ace pulls the ceiling van CLICK, CLICK, CLICK, CLICK, and leaves the office.

INT. CLUB - MAIN AREA - NIGHT

Ace crawls on hands and knees behind the bar to the door leading into the cloakroom.

INT. CLUB - HALL - NIGHT

Ace climbs through the wardrobe window into the hall. He smirks and turns off the main lights.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

LOU
And he always wears gloves.

Lou tries to take it all in.

LOU (CONT'D)
Jesus Mary Joseph.

He gets up and walks to the alter in the front. He looks at a statue of Mary. After a bit, Malloy comes to join him.

MALLOY
I am so sorry, Lou. I just wanted to mess with him.

LOU
Well, that you did.

Malloy starts balling. Lou puts his arms around him.

LOU (CONT'D)
I thought it was weird today that Ace did as I said without giving me lip. Jesus Mary Joseph.

INT. JAIL - CELL - NIGHT

A broken Alex sits on a bed, staring at a wall.

INT. CLUB - MAIN AREA - DAY

MUSIC plays over the sound system. Ace sits at the bar drinking his way through the bar's supply.

KNOCKING

He UNLOCKS the door. It's Philomena.

PHILOMENA
I want to talk to Lou.

ACE
Come in

Philomena walks in, looking around at the empty club. Ace LOCKS the door.

ACE (CONT'D)
They should be here any minute.
They went to church to

He raises his glass.

ACE (CONT'D)

Drink?

Philomena gets uncomfortable and antsy.

PHILOMENA

No, I'll come back another time.

ACE

If you need a job, you could dance here.

Ace waddles across the club.

PHILOMENA

I have a job.

She fumbles with the locks on the door. Her bag drops. Ace comes over to her. Philomena bends over to pick up her bag.

ACE

I was just trying to help. No need to be

A necklace with an engagement, and wedding ring on it falls out of her blouse. Ace spots it.

ACE (CONT'D)

You're married?

PHILOMENA

Stay away from me.

Philomena jerks back, her foot missteps. He catches her, and ogles as she's her in his arms.

ACE

The poor bastard.

Philomena frees herself from Ace.

PHILOMENA

To Alex!

She opens the last lock on the door and rushes out.

EXT. CLUB - DAY

Philomena hurries out the front door.
Ace zigzags out after her on the sidewalk

ACE

Well, get ready for a dry spell!

Philomena watches him follow her. She steps out between parked cars, waiting for a car to pass so she can cross when she gets unwell, and faints into the street; BAM, the car hits her.

Ace looks at her lying there like a rag doll. The car's driver gets out, completely upset.

People rush out of shops to see what happened. Ace goes back into the club.

INT. CLUB - DAY

Ace CLOSES THE DOOR, trying to grasp what just happened.

INT. MALLOY'S CAR - DAY

Malloy drives up to the club. He spots an ambulance. An ambulance crew walks by pushing a gurney with Philomena on it.

MALLOY

Jesus, Lou, that's Alex's girl.

LOU

Follow the ambulance.

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING AREA - DAY

Lou, Malloy, and Elenore Knightly sit in the waiting area. Elenore looks at the men.

ELENORE

Why are you two here?

MALLOY

We were driving past and recognized her.

LOU

We will help you pay for any operation or treatment she may need.

ELENORE

Why? Why would you offer to do that?

LOU
Because she's Alex's sweetheart.

Elenore gets up.

ELENORE
Because she's family is what you
wanted to say, right? You knew
about the marriage!

LOU
Marriage?

Lou looks at Malloy, who lifts his shoulders.

ELENORE
When I came in, they did not have a
Philomena Nightly, only a Philomena
King. The doctor gave me this.

She holds up Philomena's engagement and wedding ring. All Lou
and Malloy can do is stare.

ELENORE (CONT'D)
They are married.

All three look at each other, baffled.

LOU
We did not know. I swear.

They all sit down in silence for a bit.

LOU (CONT'D)
Can we keep this accident from
Alex? He already has a lot on his
plate. Could we wait until
Philomena has recovered to tell
him?

A doctor walks into the waiting area looking at Elenore, Lou,
and Malloy.

ELENORE
It's okay; they can hear.

DOCTOR
I'm sorry, she is brain-dead.

Elenore SCREAMS in desperation. Malloy looks at the floor in
tears. Lou puts an arm around Elenore.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

(To Lou)

We are keeping her in a coma to
give the baby a chance.

Elenore GASPS. Malloy's head shoot up. Lou tears up.

INT. JAIL - CELL - DAY

Prison Warden WALDEN puts his baton against a horizontal
opening in the bars.

WALDEN

Get up.

INT. JAIL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Walden points to a yellow line on the floor with his baton.

WALDEN

Okay, you have to stay between the
white line and the wall when you
walk. So, walk on the left side of
the white line, and you are in
trouble. Walk on the right side of
the white line and you are fine. So
right is right.

Alex looks at the yellow line, then looks back at Walden.

WALDEN (CONT'D)

We have been kind enough to
highlight the white line with
yellow marker for you. To emphasize
its great significance to your well-
being. Do you understand?

ALEX

Yes Sir. Sir, can I make a call
today?

WALDEN

You can use the phone after 12
o'clock for two collect calls every
three months for a combined time of
fifteen minutes. A connection is a
call, no matter how short it is.
Follow the line to your right.

Alex heads right, on the right side of the line. Walden walks
on the left side with him, until they reach the phones. Alex
stares at them like he could eat them.

WALDEN (CONT'D)

Further down the line is the chow hall. You have thirty minutes from now to eat. If you miss breakfast, you will have to wait till lunch. Remember how to get back to your cell?

ALEX

Yes Sir.

INT. JAIL - CHOW HALL - DAY

Alex gets served food. All the inmates stare at him while he walks past and sits at an empty table.

He eats with his head down. African American Anthony "FOX" Salas sits down across from him. Alex just keeps eating.

FOX

You got caught by the man with a kilo of coke in your car and got life. Damn, man.

ALEX

Is there a point in you fetching old cows out of a ditch?

Fox giggles.

FOX

What?

Alex sighs.

ALEX

Are you digging up ancient stories for a reason?

FOX

Hey, you are our new and exciting episode of the immensely popular soap series "How did this one fuck up and land himself up in here."

Alex stops chewing.

FOX (CONT'D)

Let's start over. My name is Fox. I am in for forgery in the First Degree. I got 12 years. I've been in for ten. Enchanté.

ALEX

Okay, so you already know my story.
I'm a lion to you, Fox.

FOX

Lion? Cute. What? Because you're a king? Fox is my real name, man. You'd better realize you ain't no King up in here. I am in C 10 if you ever want something. I can't get you everything, but I can get a whole lot.

Alex lifts his shirt, revealing a chest tattoo of two rampant lions holding a shield with a lion on it holding a sword and seven arrows.

FOX (CONT'D)

Oh my.

ALEX

The Dutch are called Lions.

He lowers his shirt, and gets back to his food.

FOX

I see.

ALEX

Let's say I need something. What would you want in return?

FOX

A royal dick suck will do.

Alex puts his cutlery down and looks up at Fox angrily.

FOX (CONT'D)

Made you look. (laughs) Look, just because they stopped the segregation doesn't suddenly make every nigger happy to share this joint with me, if you know what I mean. I need an extra set of eyes and some extra muscle power.

He looks at Alex's arms.

FOX (CONT'D)

I don't discriminate.

ALEX

I don't do violence.

FOX
 O honey, violence will sure do you.
 Well, it was nice knowing you,
 pussycat.

Fox walks off.

INT. CLUB - CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Ace sits on the floor, drinking a bottle of whiskey.

A DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES

MALLOY (O.C.)
 ACE?

Ace looks up but doesn't respond.

MALLOY (O.C.) (CONT'D)
 That's weird. His car's outside.

A DOOR OPENS above, FOOTSTEPS above

MALLOY (CONT'D)
 He's not here.

LOU (O.C.)
 It's probably still there from
 yesterday. He hasn't got Alex to
 drive his drunk arse around anymore
 now.

MALLOY (O.C.)
 Now what? Are we going to eat with
 him as usual and open up, like
 nothing happened?

LOU (O.C.)
 Do you have a better idea?

After a few moments.

MALLOY (O.C.)
 No.

LOU (O.C.)
 I changed my will yesterday. He's
 not getting one fecking penny.

Ace starts to cry.

LOU (CONT'D)

That will be his punishment. It's nothing compared to what he did to Alex, but some at least. I'm leaving it all to my grandchild.

Ace is surprised.

LOU (CONT'D)

We need to focus now on helping Alex now.

Ace opens the door.

INT. JAIL - CORRIDOR- DAY

Alex picks up the phone receiver, and pushes the zero.

ALEX

Yes, I would like to make a collect call to Philomena Nightly, three, three, one, nine, four, two, five. Alex King? Oh, I see; thank you.

He hangs up and then picks the receiver up again.

INT. CLUB - MAIN AREA - DAY

PHONE RINGING, Malloy picks up.

MALLOY

Yes.

He puts it on speaker.

ALEX (V.O.)

Dad?

LOU

Hello son

ALEX (V.O.)

I did not do it. Ace did.

Malloy looks at the floor.

LOU

We know. But, he wore gloves and did it without being seen so there is no proof. But, I am going to get you a different lawyer.

(MORE)

LOU (CONT'D)

So, we'll go over everything and see what our options are, and take it from there, okay?

ALEX (V.O.)

I'm only allowed two calls every three months. I can't get a hold of Philomena.

LOU

She knows you, son. She knows you did not do it. I will write you. We'll find a way. I am so sorry Alex. But we won't give up, you hear?

MALLOY

Ace doesn't know that we know, and we should keep it that way.

INT. JAIL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Latino inmate Santiago aka SANTA, walks by and disconnects Alex's call. Alex looks at him.

SANTA

My turn.

INT. CLUB - MAIN AREA - DAY

DISCONNECT CRACKLE.

Malloy's mood plummets.

INT. HOSPITAL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Ace looks at the names next to the doors. He stops at Philomena King's.

INT. HOSPITAL - ROOM - DAY

He looks at Philomena, surrounded by machines. He checks her chart.

INT. JAIL - AIRING YARD - DAY

Now sporting a small beard, Alex sits on a bench looking at a concrete table in front of him.

INT. BOMBED APARTMENT - DAY

THUNDERING WHACKS OF ROTATING PROPELLER BLADES

Four-year-old Alex sits under a table crying.

A crashed world war two German fighter plane, lies smashed against a wall.

A woman's rump lies on the nose of the plane. Red gore is lies splattered around. The German pilot SHOTS himself in the head.

Little Alex crawls out from under the table. He walks past a man, crushed by concrete rubble, to the edge of the floor.

He looks down at a group of "tiny" people standing below on a hill of rubble, holding a net, gesturing Alex to jump.

INT. JAIL - AIRING YARD - DAY

Alex strokes the table. Santa talks to Fox, catching rays in front of a wall.

SANTA

Just get me some fucking
cigarettes. I'll pay you next time.

FOX

If I get you smokes on I owe you,
everybody will want to get smokes
on I owe you. I don't do I owe
you Santa, honey. You might be
dead tomorrow.

Santa looks at CHORRO, a huge man.

SANTA

Get him.

Chorro grabs Fox's neck and lifts him up along the wall.

CHORRO

Maybe you'll be dead tomorrow.

Alex blows all his air out.

ALEX

If you kill the Fox, many inmates
won't be able to get smokes
anymore. That will produce a lot of
cranky people. Cranky people tend
to take their mood out on someone.

(MORE)

ALEX (CONT'D)

You, in this case. So if you ever want a chance at smoking again, I suggest you put his ass down.

Every inmate is looking at Alex. Chorro put's Fox down, who COUGHS and GASPS for air. Chorro turns to Alex.

CHORRO

You need to shut up, cabron.

ALEX

I'm getting really sick of people telling me what to do. He gets my smokes for me. I like smoking, so you are going to leave him the fuck alone from now on, or you'll have to deal with the lion.

Everybody LAUGHS.

CHORRO

Pussy, when I am done with you, you won't be able to smoke, 'cause all your lives will be spent.

Inmates start to take bets with each other on Chorro beating Alex. Fox steps forward.

FOX

If my friend wins, you all give half of the smokes you bet on Chorro to him.

All inmates start whispering. One by one the inmates say, "deal."

Chorro comes for Alex. BAM, right on the jaw. Spit and blood flies. Alex goes DOWN.

All the inmates CHEER, seeing their "cigarette ships" coming in more clearly with each punch.

Alex is no match for Chorro. After a few minutes, Alex's lips and eyebrows are busted. His face is a swollen, cut, bleeding mess.

After a while, Alex finally manages to get one in and kicks Chorro in the nuts. Chorro stops and laughs at him.

Panic enters Alex's eyes.

FOX (CONT'D)

Alex! He'll kill you! Do something!

BAM Alex's punched again. He hits the floor.

CHORRO
Where is your big mouth now,
pendejo?

Through Alex's eyes, the world is a bloody red mess. Alex sees some dark brown skin. Chorro laughs as Alex stumbles up onto his feet.

CHORRO (CONT'D)
I'm done playing.

Chorro comes for Alex like a rampaging bull. Alex turns around, and hobble runs towards the wall where Fox stands.

FOX
What are you doing?

When he's five feet away from the wall, Chorro grabs onto him.

FOX (CONT'D)
O shit.

CHORRO
I got you now, mother

Alex RUNS up the wall, using Chorro's hold on him as an anchor.

CHORRO (CONT'D)
Fucker

He flips over, LANDS behind him, and BASHES Chorro's head into the wall.

It knocks him out cold. Alex spits blood on him.

ALEX
DO NOT tell me what to do!

All inmates go silent. An angry inmate heads in Fox's direction.

ANGRY INMATE
You set us up!

Weathered inmate with a stump arm, PALMER, steps in and STUMP-PUNCHES him out. He then looks at the others.

PALMER

I saw him win fair and square. Show the lion some respect, or I will stomp every last one of you.

Everyone stays quiet.

PALMER (CONT'D)

Pay your debts.

Fox creates a bowl with his shirt. All the inmates throw their cigarettes in as Palmer keeps an eye on the proceedings. Alex stumbles to Palmer.

ALEX

Thanks, man; what is your name?

PALMER

Palmer.

ALEX

Fox, give Palmer half of my cigarettes, will ya?

FOX

I will. Thank you, Alex.

ALEX

Yeah, yeah. I don't feel like saying you're welcome, if you don't mind. Does this shit happen all the time?

PALMER

Not after the big point you've just made.

ALEX

Thank god. I'm an inch away from death. I have to make a call.

Palmer and Fox stare at Alex stumbling off.

INT. JAIL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Alex is on the phone.

ALEX

(Speed talks)

Miss Knightly? Thank you for accepting my call. I didn't do it, miss Knightly, I swear. Is Philomena there?

Alex listens. Terror hits him like a freight train.

ALEX (CONT'D)
 No. Philly. A coma? Dying? No,
 you're lying because I am in jail.
 Because.. No.. I...

INT. JAIL - CELL - DAY

Alex closes the door, gets into his bed, and cries in silence.

INT. HOSPITAL - NEWBORN NURSERY - DAY

We pass over baby cots—each contains a cute baby lying under a cardholder stating the baby's info.

We stop at a mixed-race baby sleeping. The hospital bracelet on its tiny wrist reads: Baby girl KING.

Ace looks at her. He opens a duffel bag and lifts the plastic bassinet, baby and all, off the trolley and into the bag.

INT. HOSPITAL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Lou walks down the corridor beaming with Malloy holding a basket filled with pink baby goodies. Lou spots Elenore crying on a bench.

LOU
 Elenore?

She looks up at Lou and starts to cry harder.

ELENORE
 They took her. My granddaughter is gone.

The basket HITS the floor. Lou puts his arms around her. He looks at Malloy in terror. Malloy runs off.

ELENORE (CONT'D)
 Sorry, our granddaughter. They took her. The police are looking for her.

She cries and cries. Lou looks at the babies with tears in his eyes.

LOU
 They'll find her. They'll find her.

EXT. NEVADA COUNTRYSIDE - NIGHT

Between the hills of the vast open countryside of Nevada stands the "Prime Pussy Palace" whorehouse. A flashy car shoots by, creating a dust trail.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - ENTRANCE HALL - NIGHT

Three men listen to employee BECKY from behind a cloakroom counter.

BECKY

I am Becky. You want to play?

The three men nod and laugh.

BECKY (CONT'D)

Okay, fellas, listen up. You pay in advance; you get a chance. Only cards and cash let you unload your stash. Two fifty an hour is the amount; nothing will get you a discount. If you want to have sex, you wear latex. They check your balls and dick before doing their trick. Kissing they can do, but not with you. You late, you pay, ain't no other way. Grab the girl that cocks your gun, go to a room, and have some fun. Now pay up.

All three men lay down two hundred and fifty dollars.

BECKY (CONT'D)

Now that the painful business is settled, let's get to the pleasure, shall we?

She comes out of one door and opens another.

BECKY (CONT'D)

After you, gentlemen.

The men enter. BABY CRYING.

Becky watches Ace come in with CRYING baby King. He hands it to her and follows the men. Becky puts a finger in the baby's mouth. It goes quiet.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - MAIN AREA - NIGHT

Becky enters a luxuriously, tacky room. Soft MUSIC PLAYS. Ace heads to the bar.

BECKY (O.S)
Welcome, gentlemen, to what we call
the "center of attention". Have a
seat, please.

Bartender SUMMER puts a whiskey in front of Ace.

ACE
Get Dixie over here.

Summer presses the intercom.

SUMMER
Ace is here.

Ace drinks, watching Becky push a button on the wall.

LOUD MUSIC

Twenty hookers enter, walking to the music, and form a line, all ending up in the same position.

The PPP owner and fat lady DIXIE drives past the newbies choosing on her mobility scooter and up to the bar.

DIXIE
Hello handsome. (to Summer) Take
five.

As Summer leaves, Dixie looks at Ace with lovesick eyes.

ACE
I decided to take you up on your
offer. I will stay here with you.

Dixie lights up.

DIXIE
Oh, Ace, that is better than a year
of stag nights.

Ace points at the baby.

ACE
But she stays, too, for a while.

DIXIE
Sure.

ACE

My plan went belly up. Can you get me in touch with Victor?

DIXIE

Sure. Sure, I can honey.

INT. JAIL - VISITORS ROOM - DAY

Malloy and Alex talk on the phone, on either side of glass.

MALLOY

Did you get our letter?

ALEX

Yeah.

LOU

Your father is stuck between pigs and a jailcell.

ALEX

Yeah, I've thought about that. I have an idea. It's crazy, but if you get it right, you can put them away.

MALLOY

Let's hear the madness then.

We hear Alex's narrated explanation while we see Malloy and Lou executing the plan:

ALEX (V.O.)

You have to hang up hidden camera's in every space of the Quarter.

INT. KINGS QUARTER - CLUB AREA - NIGHT

Malloy stands on a ladder in the club yawning, as he positions a camera disguised as a light.

ALEX (V.O.)

And I mean every space.

INT. KINGS QUARTER - ATTIC - NIGHT

Lou watches a screen showing a trembling image of the bathroom. He grabs a walkie-talkie.

LOU
There, that's perfect!

On the screen, Malloy gives a thumbs-up.

ALEX (V.O.)
You hide all the monitors in the
attic, and you reprogram their
dates backwards. Every ten days you
go back a year.

INT. KINGS QUARTER - ATTIC - NIGHT

Malloy reprograms the dates on the monitors. The screen shows
07-28-1969,

ALEX (V.O.)
In one year, you'll go back ten
years.

The screen shows 07-28-1968

ALEX (V.O.)
To when dad took over from grandpa,
And the cops set their sights on
the Quarter.

MALLOY (V.O.)
But what about Ace? He's bugged
off.

INT. KINGS QUARTER - CLUB AREA - DAY

Lou and Malloy look at a big man, walking across the floor.

ALEX (V.O.)
Just hire a look-a-like actor, and
practice with him how to move so
that the camera doesn't see too
much of his face.

MALLOY (V.O.)
Right.

ALEX (V.O.)
Where was I? Oh yeah, the tapes.

INT. CLUB - OFFICE - DAY

Malloy sits behind the monitors.

ALEX (V.O.)

For every ten days, you prepare things to say that will make it look like the tapes are really of that time.

Baxter and Frank step into the office all smiles.

ALEX (CONT'D)

The first ten days, you say things that can prove that they've been controlling you guys for ten years.

A lazy Malloy gets up, and hands them their money.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Like...

MALLOY

You've taken over his club, his life and put his son in jail. When is it enough? He's losing weight, man. He's fading away. He's not what he was ten years ago. He can't keep doing this. He's not like his dad. It will kill him.

ALEX (V.O.)

So you get answers that help your case.

Frank sits down behind his desk.

FRANK

So what? Let the old fart stay at home, then. We'll do just fine without him.

Frank puts his feet up on the desk.

ALEX (V.O.)

The further you go forward the further you go back.

Baxter stands in Lou's spot. Malloy stands next to him.

MALLOY

We've got a problem, Baxter. Lou can't make it. He's sick and I can't work the screens, and the corridor alone for you.

INT. ATTIC - NIGHT

Malloy takes the tapes out of the security monitors.

ALEX (V.O.)
 You can play around with the dates
 as long as you get all weeks.

INT. STORAGE LOCKER - DAY

Malloy places a dated tape on a rack. In fast forward, we see racks appearing, filling up with video tapes.

INT. CLUB - MAIN AREA - NIGHT

Fast motion footage: The club's main area gets more and more dated

ALEX (V.O.)
 Dad will have to lose weight. You
 both have to go back in time,
 appearance-wise.

INT. CLUB - OFFICE - NIGHT

Collage: Lou gets thinner, tanned, less grey hair, and his clothes become more youthful. Baxter and Fred stare at Lou.

ALEX (V.O.)
 Tell them

A better groomed Malloy, in dated clothes, answers.

MALLOY
 (Whispers)
 He's met a girl.

Malloy rolls his eyes.

ALEX (V.O.)
 You would have to do the same.

INT. JAIL - VISITORS ROOM - DAY

WALDEN
 TIME!

Malloy watches Alex gets up.

ALEX

At the end of the year, you hold a fifties costume party, and try to stage the pig's take-over.

Malloy nods. He watches Alex in awe as he walks off.

ALEX (CONT'D)

And put everything back to normal before acting on it.

INT. JAIL - CELL - DAY

Alex's cell is now decorated in charcoal Dutch scenery, Escher patterns, paintings, and tulips.

Fox stands, counting cigarettes.

A now buffed thirty-year-old Alex, with half-long hair and a full beard, sits on his bed.

Palmer, sitting in front of him, looks through the glasses on the tip of his nose, at a chess board.

Walden shows up in the doorway.

WALDEN

King, you have a visitor.

INT. JAIL - HALLWAY - DAY

Alex and Walden each walk on their side of the yellow line. Alex's demeanor and tread have changed. He is no longer a cub.

WALDEN

No more appeals?

ALEX

Nope. I can't win with a shitty hand unless I can pull an ace out of my sleeve.

INT. JAIL - VISITORS ROOM - DAY

A younger-looking Malloy awaits Alex on the other side of the glass. He seems nervous. Alex sits down and picks up the receiver.

MALLOY

Alex.

ALEX

Is dad okay?

MALLOY

Yes. That's not it. You have a daughter. Philomena was pregnant. They were able to save the baby.

ALEX

What?

MALLOY

The thing is. Someone took the baby. We didn't tell you because we wanted the cops to find her first, but it's been a year, and they still haven't.

ALEX

What?

MALLOY

We think Ace took her because we hadn't seen him since then. Maybe he found out somehow that Lou had changed his will and decided to leave it all to his granddaughter.

ALEX

WHAT?

Alex goes wild; he HITS the plastic barrier with the receiver. Malloy backs up. - BAM - Warden KRENIK hits Alex with his baton. It doesn't slow him down one bit.

KRENIK

That's a month in the hole for you!

Other wardens come to Krenik's aid. Together they grab Alex and carry him off.

INT. JAIL - HOLE - DAY

Alex stares at the floor in thought.

INT. JAIL - WORKSHOP - DAY

SEWING MACHINES WHIRRING, MEN TALKING LOUDLY

Inmates sit sewing mailbags at sewing stations. They look up when a white, drained Alex shuffles past. Alex stops next to an inmate sitting next to Fox.

ALEX

A packet for your spot.

The inmate moves to another station. Fox looks at warden Krenik talking to warden Walden.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Hey, I need to get shot.

FOX

Hey, I feel the same way after the hole.

ALEX

No, I need to get hurt bad enough to go to the hospital to escape from there "I need to get shot."

Krenik looks around the workshop.

FOX

What the fuck happened?

ALEX

It turns out I became a father a year ago.

FOX

What?

ALEX

Yeah, they didn't tell me because someone kidnapped the baby. They didn't want to upset me.

He spots Alex and Fox talking.

FOX

Did they find the baby?

KRENIK

HEY, ANIMALS, SHUT IT!

Alex shakes no. Krenik's gaze moves on.

ALEX

I've tried the normal way. It's no use.

Krenik SLAPS Alex across the head.

KRENIK

IT'S A SEWING ROOM, NOT A FUCKING CHICKEN COOP.

Everyone SEWS on in silence. Fox looks at Alex with a worried face as Krenik struts on.

ALEX

He won't kill me for real. They get
25 dollars a head from the state.

Krenik turns around.

KRENIK

No meat for tonight, lion.

KRENIK (CONT'D)

Is anyone else not hungry? GET TO
WORK!

INT. JAIL - CHOW HALL - DAY

Alex and Palmer watch a black and blue Fox sit across from them with his dinner tray.

PALMER

What the fuck happened to you?

Alex looks around when he meets Santa's gaze. A smile appears.

FOX

Don't.

Santa walks over to their table.

FOX (CONT'D)

Think of your little girl.

SANTA

I had a business meeting with your
fairy friend. Unfortunately, he did
not want to work with me.

ALEX

Fairies don't work for Santa's,
elves do. Fairies are self-
employed, you know, like the tooth
fairy. You got confused. It happens
at your age, Santa. Like...
breaking things.

SWOOSH Alex's leg shoots outward, kicking Santa's feet out from under him. BANG, he lands face forward on the table. All the inmates look to see what happened. Alex acts surprised too.

ALEX (CONT'D)
And false teeth.

Warden Walden walks over to check out what's happening as Santa MOANS and tries to get up. His forehead and mouth are bleeding. He takes broken-off teeth out of his mouth.

SANTA
(To Walden)
He fucking kicked me! My teeth have
broken off!

WALDEN
That happens when you trip up.

Santa's eyes grow huge as warden Walden walks off. Santa looks at Alex steaming.

ALEX
Touch Fox again, and I'll take your
head off.

Palmer shoots up, spooking Santa.

PALMER
I'M DONE

Palmer BANGS his empty tray next to Santa, who Jumps.

PALMER (CONT'D)
Time for a shit.

All the inmates laugh.

INT. JAIL - CELL - DAY

In a cell with posters of handsome men, Fox and Alex sit on Fox's bed.

FOX
A guy will wait outside the
hospital every day at twelve AM.
wearing a yellow t-shirt. He will
take you to a Guy. He will help
you.

ALEX
Thanks, brother.

INT. JAIL - CELL - DAY

Palmer sits a cell covered with book shelves, reading on his bed.

KNOCKING

ALEX

Hey

PALMER

Hey

ALEX

I, eh, need a healthcare plan for Fox.

Palmer puts his book down.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I'll pay you whatever you want. If you want the job.

PALMER

I do. Don't worry about him. My health plan gives full coverage.

ALEX

The Fox will like that.

They laugh.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Come on. I'll give you your first payment.

Palmer gets up.

PALMER

Your mind's made up?

ALEX

Yeah. Tomorrow's the day. I will give Fox a phone number of where I am staying as soon as I can. Call collect anytime.

INT. JAIL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Inmates come out of cells yawning. Chorro, Palmer, and Fox shuffle along the line. Warden Walden opens Alex's cell door. Alex rushes out.

WALDEN

What the hell?

Walden pulls his gun out of its holster.
Alex comes for him.
BANG, Alex is shot in the leg.
He SCREAMS, and falls to his knees

ALEX

Okay, okay, I'm so

BANG, Krenik shoots Alex in the chest. Surprise appears on Alex's face as he hits the floor.

FOX

NO!

WALDEN

He was already down!

KRENIK

Yeah, and now he stays down.

Palmer hits Chorro.

PALMER

Give it back, asshole! (whispers)
two packets for playing along.

Chorro puts his hands around Palmer's neck and lifts him off the ground.

CHORRO

Make me, you puny infidel!

PALMER

(Whispers)
Infidel? (shouts) I'll take your
puny dick off.

Fox only has eyes for Alex as Palmer starts kicking, SCREAMING, and clawing. WHISTLING Wardens come from everywhere.

WARDENS

GET BACK TO YOUR CELLS!

Inmates do as they're told. Wardens SLAM doors shut one after the other. Fox isn't moving.

Chorro and Palmer look at each other, grab Fox, and carry him off.

FOX

ALEX!

INT. JAIL - CEL - DAY

Santa watches through his door window. He sees Walden, Krenik, and two other wardens lift Alex on a stretcher.

SANTA

The cat's gone loco without a motive.

INT. JAIL - CORRIDOR- DAY

As wardens lift the stretcher, Alex's arms drop down. Blood seeping through the stretcher creates a red line over the floor's yellow line.

A crying Fox looks out through the horizontal opening in his cell door.

PALMER

Walk faster, you bastards!

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Alex's eyes open, squinting in pain

METAL CLANGING

He sees his wrists are cuffed to the bed, and his ankles tied to the bed with leather restraints.

A blue curtain surrounds his bed; the legs of two beds are visible on the other side of the room. A stroller stands next to one of them.

SQUEAKY SHOES, with female legs in them, SQUEAK into view.

Alex's eyes close.

We switch to the other side of the blue curtain where nurse BETTY stands with a face that spells impatience.

BETTY

Mrs. Jacobs, how are we today?
Mrs. Jacobs?

Balding elderly lady ALETTA Jacobs snaps out of her "stare."

ALETTA

Sorry, Nurse Betty. Good morning. A lot better, thank you. (whispers) Could you open that curtain for Helena and me? We want to look at the gangster.

In the next bed sits another Balding elderly Aletta. HELENA, her silently excited twin.

HELENA

We have never seen a criminal before.

ALETTA

(in Dutch) That is not true. You are lying now. (English) We saw plenty of Nazis.

BETTY

I am not going to open the curtain.

ALETTA

We have never seen a real gangster before, only on television. (Dutch) A Nazi is not a gangster otherwise, they would have called them gangsters not Nazis.

BETTY

He looks like any other man.

HELENA

Seeing something on television is different real life.

BETTY

I will come back to check up on you later.

ALETTA

But

BETTY

You both need rest.

Her shoes SQUEAK as they walk around the blue curtain.

HELENA

(in Dutch)
We need rest.

ALETTA
 (in Dutch)
 As much as a bikini.

On Alex's side of the curtain:

Nurse Betty looks at Alex's face as she carefully draws his sheets back. Nothing happens. She relaxes. She lifts his hospital gown, and checks his bandage.

Alex opens his eyes for a sec. A pen lies on the cart next to his bed.

ALEX
 Mom?

Groggily, he comes up, MOANING in pain, He kisses nurse Betty on the right cheek.

ALEX (CONT'D)
 Hi mom.

Nurse Betty pulls back. A dopey Alex smiles at her.

ALEX (CONT'D)
 I missed you. AUCH

He tries to kiss her other cheek.

NURSE BETTY
 Mister King

His left hand reaches for the pen.

NURSE BETTY (CONT'D)
 Mister King, you are in the hospital. I am nurse Betty.

His hand falls short.

ALEX
 Hospital? Auch.

NURSE BETTY
 You got shot. I have to look at your wounds.

She carefully removes the bandage taped over the middle of his chest.

ALEX
 AUCH

Revealing a five-inch stitched wound on the breast bone, right in the middle of his Dutch coat of arms chest tattoo.

ALEX (CONT'D)

AUCH shot?

Switch:

Aletta and Helena bite their lips, looking at each other with excitement.

Switch:

Alex looks around confused, jiggling his wrist and ankle restraints.

ALEX (CONT'D)

AUCH

Alex cringes, trying to reach his shot leg.

NURSE BETTY

Lay still so I can take a look at your leg.

Nurse Betty removes the blanket from his leg. Alex's hand reaches for the pen again, a fingertip touches it.

NURSE BETTY (CONT'D)

Maybe the bandage is too tight.

Betty takes the dressing off, revealing a half-inch stitched wound.

NURSE BETTY (CONT'D)

Better?

She looks up. Alex lies slumped to one side of the bed, MOANING.

NURSE BETTY (CONT'D)

I will get you some painkillers.

Betty lays a piece of gauze over the wound.

NURSE BETTY (CONT'D)

I will dress it when the pain has subsided.

Betty SQUEAKS out of the room. Alex stretches his body. Real pain shows on his face now.

Switch:

HELENA
Are you all right, mister King?

ALETTA
(In Dutch)
Of course, he is not all right; he
got shot twice, didn't he?

HELENA
I am sorry, mister King Sir. That
was a stupid question.

Switch:

Alex smiles, and GROANS, his hand reaches until his fingertip
touches the pen's tip.

Switch:

HELENA (CONT'D)
But you got shot, and lived to tell
the tale, and that is good isn't
it?

Switch:

ALEX
(whispers)
Almost

HE GRUNTS. His every muscle strains as he tries moving it
towards him.

Switch:

HELENA
We are here because of Aletta's
liver.

Switch:

ALEX
(whispers)
Here boy

It moves sideways over the edge of the cabinet

Switch:

ALETTA
It was kaput

Switch:

ALEX
 (Whispers)
 Come on

SQUEAKING

Alex bites his lips, and puches himself to the max; his finger tries to get the pen away from the edge, but it goes over. It HITS the floor

ALEX (CONT'D)
 SHIT

Switch:

HELENA
 Yes, that is shit.

SQUEAKING

ALETTA
 He wasn't talking to you, Hel.

Switch:

Nurse Betty looks at a "slumped" Alex hanging head first over the side of the bed.

ALEX
 (Groggily)
 It hurts.

NURSE BETTY
 Open up.

He opens his mouth. Nurse Betty drops two pills in and "feeds" him some water. Through the glass's bottom we see a needle sticking out of nurse Betty's breast pocket.

ALEX
 (fake crying)
 Ace shot me again with the beebie gun

Switch:

HELENA
 (whispers in Dutch)
 I think he is still a bit cuckoo from the anesthetic.

Switch: Alex leans into Betty's chest.

NURSE BETTY
Mister King!

His teeth grab the needle and pull it out. He drops it on the bed between his blanket-covered legs. Nurse Betty moves back.

NURSE BETTY (CONT'D)
Just lay down and try to sleep.

As nurse Betty stands up, Alex quickly closes his legs, hiding the needle.

NURSE BETTY (CONT'D)
I will come in to check on you later.

SQUEAKING - A DOOR CLOSES.

In pain, Alex wriggles under the sheets. His right leg holds down the blanket as his other comes up, creating a slope. The needle glides down fast, flying over the bed's edge.

Two fingers catch it just in time.- POP - the cap of the needle, and moves it around in the cuff's key hole. CLICK

ALEX
(whispers)
Lion on the loose.

Alex smirks, frees himself from all restraints, and gets out of bed, GRUNTING. He opens a closet. It's empty.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Bugger

He walks over to the ladies' side. They are stunned.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Hello ladies, I am a gangster. Nice to meet you.

He carefully sits down on Aletta's bed. A tiny PEEP escapes Helena's mouth. Helena and Aletta stare at him in surprise when FOOTSTEPS APPROACH. Alex puts a finger in front of his mouth.

ALEX (CONT'D)
(In Dutch)
Please

He hides next to Aletta's closet. A nurse comes in.

NURSE
Would you like something to drink?

Aletta panics.

HELENA

(hisses)

Will you be quiet? He just stopped screaming. We are trying to relax here. Close the door behind you. Thank you very much.

NURSE

Well.

The nurse leaves, closing the door. Alex's head peeps out. He and Aletta are staring at Helena in amazement.

ALEX

(In Dutch)

Thank you.

HELENA

(In Dutch)

You're welcome.

ALEX

Can I borrow some of your clothes?

ALETTA

Did you do it?

ALEX

No, I went "Ghandi" after losing my parents in the war until I went to jail innocently. You have to hold your ground there. (in Dutch) I swear it on the souls of my dead parents.

ALETTA

(In Dutch)

Go ahead.

ALEX

(In Dutch)

Thank you.

Alex takes his hospital gown off. The ladies' jaws drop at the sight of Alex's now muscular body with his tattoo.

ALETTA

That is

HELENA

The Dutch coat of arms.

Aletta tears up.

HELENA (CONT'D)
It's beautiful.

Alex smiles as he puts on a long skirt and a ruffled blouse.

HELENA (CONT'D)
You are lucky that Aletta likes to eat. Take my glasses.

ALETTA
Really.

She hands them to him. Aletta looks at his feet.

ALETTA (CONT'D)
Put my slippers on.

Alex slides into her pink fluffy slippers.

HELENA
If you use the walker, you can hunch over. Just leave it at the front door.

ALETTA
And put my wig on with a scarf around it.

Aletta, hands him her grey-haired wig. Helena looks at her.

ALETTA (CONT'D)
Oh, it is just like the bikini.

Alex kisses Aletta.

ALEX
Thank you.

He kisses Helena. If I wanted to thank you later, where would I be able to find you?

HELENA
The Foster retirement home.

ALEX
The saucy Dutch twins at Foster, got it.

As Alex leaves the room, the twins giggle and high-five each other.

INT. HOSPITAL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Alex looks left: a corridor ending in a window.

He looks right: a corridor leading past the nurse's station to an elevator.

Twenty-two-year old male student nurse DEAN comes out of a door, zipping up his jacket.

ALEX
(As an old lady)
Done working?

DEAN
Um, yes ma'am.

ALEX
Me too.

Dean laughs. Alex grabs his arm.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Could you please help me get
outside? My eyes aren't so good
anymore. The last time I went for a
smoke, I walked into a wall.

Dean bites away a smile as they start walking together.

ALEX (CONT'D)
You have some muscles, young man.

DEAN
The boys like it.

ALEX
Oh.

DEAN
Are you all right?

ALEX
Yes, I just saw my dream go up in
smoke.

Dean laughs.

ALEX (CONT'D)
I am kidding; I am not senile.

They approach the nurse's station where "chatty" PATTY stands eating a donut.

PATTY

Hello Dean. Do you want a donut?
All brought them in. It's his
twenty-fifth year working here. Can
you imagine working here for twenty
five years? I have been here for
five, and am ready to jump off the
roof. I thought you were finished
working. You can't help it, can
you?

DEAN

She charmed me into it.

PATTY

Oh, did she now? You must tell me
how you got him to do things for
you because I can't get him to do
anything for me. What is your name,
oh woman with magical powers?

SQUEAKING IN THE DISTANCE

Patty looks at Alex as Betty comes out of the elevator
towards them.

ALEX

My name is

We hear PILE DRIVING RAM for every step Betty's white clogs
take. Step, RAM, step, RAM.

The white clogs reach GODZILLA VOLUME when they appear, and
stop next to Alex's feet, sticking out of two fluffy pink
slippers

PATTY

What?

ALEX

Dean is gay. Excuse me, Patty dear.

Alex turns away from Betty, walking straight toward a wall.
Patty and Betty look flabbergasted at Dean.

PATTY AND BETTY

Your Gay?

ALEX

Dean?

DEAN

I have to help her, excuse me.

Patty and Betty's eyes follow Dean until chatty Patty starts whispering to Betty.

DEAN (CONT'D)
What did you do that for?

ALEX
Sorry it just came out.

DEAN
It just came out.

They reach the elevator; DING, it opens, cops Frank and Baxter come out.

ALEX
Jesus.

Frank, Baxter, and Dean look at her.

DEAN
What?

ALEX
I

BAXTER
Are you all right, ma'am?

ALEX
I love men in uniform

All laugh, but Alex.

INT. HOSPITAL - ELEVATOR - DAY

Alex and Dean get in the elevator.

BAXTER
Speaking of uniforms, you forgot your hat again, Frank. That is a no-no; with all the press this gets, we need to look our best.

FRANK
Aw shucks, it's still in the car. I'll go get it.

Frank gets in the elevator with them.

BAXTER
Good day maim.

Baxter tips his hat. DING the door close, The floor indicator is on **-nine-**. Frank looks at Dean and Alex, hunched over, still as tall as Dean. **-eight-**

FRANK

You are a big lady.

Dean looks at Alex. Alex hides his hands. He tries to make himself smaller **-seven-**. The tension grows **-six-** and grows **-five-** and grows **-four-**

ALEX

I HAVE GIGANTISM. If you must know.

-three-

Everyone falls silent.

-two-

FRANK

I did not mean it the way it came out.

-one-

Alex puts his hand in Frank's face.

ALEX

Talk to the hand, buster.

DING The doors open. Frank is happy to get out.

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Dean and Alex come out of the entrance. Alex sees Frank heading to his patrol car.

ALEX

Thank you for helping me, Dean dear. I'll be fine from here. I hope you find your dream man. Goodbye.

DEAN

Bey.

A baffled Dean watches Alex shuffle on.

ALEX

Okay, yellow T-shirt.

Alex looks around at an older man and woman smoking with IV poles next to them, and a little girl skipping next to her mom.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Where is this guy?

A nurse walks by, and a priest, then Frank walking towards him, holding his hat.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Bugger

A MALE VOICE (O.C.)
Mom?

On a beast of a black dirt bike sits JUSTIN holding a helmet. His eyes, the size of saucers, look out from under a helmet resting on his forehead.

A yellow T-shirt is visible under his zipped-open black suit.

The bike looks futuristic, with horizontal wheels sticking out from its handlebars, spokes, and back seat.

Frank stops walking. He grabs his walkie-talkie.

ALEX
Oh Jesus

Frank talks into his walkie-talkie, and starts running toward Alex.

JUSTIN
Come on, mother!

Justin pulls his helmet down. Alex looks at Frank.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)
Oh my, look at my yellow T-shirt!

Justin ZIPS his suit up. Frank closes in on Alex. Justin holds out a motorcycle suit.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)
Get on mom!

Frank is a few feet away; Alex tenses up as he RUNS passed him.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)
We are late for bingo!

Alex throws the wig in the walker's basket, grabs the suit, steps into it, and gets on. Baxter comes out of the hospital entrance.

BAXTER

There he is. You ran right past him!

Baxter pulls his gun.

BAXTER (CONT'D)

Freeze King!

FRANK

Police!

A man and his daughter freeze and stick their hands up.

BAXTER

Not you! (to Frank) Get the car damned.

As Alex's feet touch down on the wacky training bars, the bike ROARS to life and takes off.

JUSTIN

I am Justin. This bike is Dirtgod, she's a five-fifty, so hold on to me.

ALEX

A five fifty?

Alex puts his arms in the suit and zips up.

JUSTIN

Yup, built it myself.

WAILING SIRENS IN THE DISTANCE

They stop at a stop light. Justin hands Alex a helmet, and checks his feet.

WAILING GETS LOUDER

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

Put it on, and put your feet in the stirrups.

(The wailing stops.)

Alex puts the helmet on. As he looks for the stirrups he feels a stare coming from a car next to them.

A kid holds his Pet Rock with googly eyes up to the window to "look" at what's happening.

In pain, Alex manages to get his right foot in the stirrup of the now colorful bike.

ALEX

I thought it was black.

The cop car, with Baxter and Frank inside, SCREECHES to a halt in front of them.

JUSTIN

Thermochromic paint.

Alex still doesn't understand.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

Basically, it's a giant mood ring.

INT. COP CAR - DAY

Frank grabs his gun and starts rolling down his window

EXT. COP CAR - DAY

Baxter gets out and pulls his gun on them over the roof.

BAXTER

Freeze King!

JUSTIN

Hold on.

Justin opens the gas. The bike comes up to a back wheelie and ROARS up against the cop car

Baxter SHOOTS, and pops a side wheel.

INT. COP CAR - DAY

BAM, the roof dents into the car. Frank ducks.

EXT. COP CAR - DAY

Baxter jumps out of the way for the rampant Dirtgod, which SHATTERS a window coming down the side. Broken glass flies everywhere.

Baxter gets up, retakes aim, and SHOOTs. A bullet HITS Alex's helmet.

ALEX

AAH

Justin slaloms off between cars

INT. COP CAR - DAY

FRANK

We should have seen that coming.

BAXTER

Shut up! Why was your window up?

Frank shrugs.

INT. TUNNEL - DAY

JUSTIN

Did he get you?

ALEX

No, he hit the helmet.

JUSTIN

Kevlar baby. Say thank you, Stephanie!

ALEX

What is that?

JUSTIN

It's a strong, heat-resistant, synthetic fiber created by Stephanie Kwolek a few years back. It's a high tensile strength-to-weight ratio and five times stronger than steel.

ALEX

Thank you, Stephanie.

WAILING

The "Dirtgods" two exhausts ROAR, ECHOING like a pack of lions, shooting down the tunnel. Alex finally manages to put his other foot in the stirrup. A WAILING siren close in.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

The right lane is packed with cars clearing a path for the approaching WAILING siren.

ALEX

Those guys put me in jail for something I didn't do. They'll kill me if they get me.

Justin sees an exit behind the packed right lane.

JUSTIN

I hear you.

An 18-wheeler comes into view.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

Hang on to me and stiffen up.

Justin's finger pushes a kill switch. He throws the bike down on its left horizontal side wheels leaving Alex to SCREAM in pain.

KRACK, a gear shift breaks off and goes flying.

One lane to the left...

INT. CAR - DAY

A SINGING drag queen retouches her lipstick, looking in the rear-view mirror when CRASH, a gear shift flies in through her passenger window

She SCREAMS, jerking her mascara across her face as the gear shift lands in her lap.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

Alex SCREAMS as he watches the asphalt shoot by in close-up. As Dirtgod rolls under the eighteen-wheeler Justin sees an overtaking car coming in.

JUSTIN

Shit! Put your leg against the truck's back wheels bar!

Alex is too slow to catch on. Justin manages to plant his right foot down on the crossbar in front of the back wheels.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

Fuck!

It barely helps. The force and speed threaten to push the bike to travel on out from under the semi.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

SHIT!

Alex grabs the bar and pulls with all his might. He SCREAMS as his arm socket is tested to the max.

The bike inches back. The overtaking car SHOOTs past, missing the bike by an inch.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

LET GO!

Alex lets go; they roll across the exit. On the exit's left lane:

INT. CAMPER VAN - DAY

Driving older man JACOB, a young woman, and a teenager with Vietnamese roots watch the bike with Justin and Alex roll past.

JACOB

There's something to tell your friends.

EXT. HIGHWAY - EXIT - DAY

Alex and Justin come to a halt against the guardrail.

JUSTIN

Help me turn him around.

They get Dirtgod up, walk a one-eighty and get on. Justin's finger hits the start button.

The bike moves forward slowly, REVVING like a chainsaw in full swing.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

What?

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

A cop car turns right to pass under the semi when it moves forward.

INT. COP CAR - DAY

BAXTER

Shit

He grabs his mic.

BAXTER (CONT'D)

Dispatch this is five X-ray on the eight four nine five, King is on eight two seven eight. I need a code nine on all possible exit routes.

INT. COP CAR - DAY

Cops TRACEY and pregnant REGINA are eating a hamburger meal. Over the radio:

DISPATCH (V.O.)

All available units, King is on eight two seven eight going west. We need a code nine on all possible exit routes, over.

Tracey puts her burger down.

TRACEY

That's near us. (into mic) That's a ten-four for five Ida.

CLICK, the seat belt is on. She looks at Regina

REGINA

My baby will Bruce Lee kick me if I put this down; go.

Tracy flips a switch. The siren WAILS as Regina eats on holding a soda in the air, and Tracey hits the gas, turning the corner with SCREECHING TIRES.

EXT. CHINA TOWN - STREET - DAY

A driving cop car's lights come on. The siren WAILS. It speeds up.

EXT. STREET - DAY

A cop places a ticket under a windshield wiper and hurries into a cop car with flashing lights. The car takes off with a WAILING siren.

EXT. HIGHWAY - EXIT - DAY

Justin's foot moves up and down to shift gears. Dirtgod REVS like a slow CHAINSAW. Justin looks down.

JUSTIN

Shit! I snapped my shift stick. I am stuck in fifth. Well, that just means no more braking from now on.

Baxter and Fred catch up to them as the bike picks up speed again.

Dirtgod hits the Brooklyn Bridge ROARING at full speed with them hot on their tail.

ALEX

We are going back in the city?

INT. COP CAR - DAY

Baxter is on the mic.

BAXTER

Dispatch this is five x-ray, King is heading down eight Miller over.

Over the radio:

DISPATCH (V.O.)

Ten-four, five x-ray.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Dirtgod shoots down the alleyway, a T junction looms. At the end of the alley, Justin throws the bike sideways.

EXT. STREET - DAY

The bike skid-slides across the tarmac and then SLAMS to an upright position against the wall. Alex SCREAMS on impact. The bike ROARS forward.

INT. COP CAR - DAY

FRANK

Why didn't he brake?

BAXTER

Fuck

Baxter steers left and opens the gas. Dirtgod SPEEDS towards a spiked fenced corner way.

ALEX

Justin?

JUSTIN

Lean left!

They lean left. Dirtgod's wheels ride the side of the curb around the bend. They shoot down the street.

Sidewalk scaffolding set up along the raised subway line comes into view.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

STAND UP!

Justin and Alex stand up as Dirtgod shoots up a car, a van, then scaffolding.

DUG-A-DUG-A-DUG-A-DUG across the wooden planks

Painters SCREAM, jumping aside and YELLING as Dirtgod rages on.

They race onto the Subway Station platform roof.

EXT. STREET - DAY

People in the streets look at where the ROARING comes from and can't believe their eyes.

INT. COP CAR - DAY

Baxter yanks the wheel.

BAXTER

Mother fucker

Over the mic:

DISPATCH (V.O.)

Did you say on the roof?

FRANK

Ten-four.

EXT. SUBWAY STATION PLATFORM - ROOF - DAY

WIND WHOOSHES as Dirtgod ZOOMS over the roof

JUSTIN

Hang on!

Justin's finger pushes the red "kill switch", the engine goes quiet.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

Skip the rewind; fast forward, GOD!

Alex sees the edge coming near.

ALEX

Tering niet weer!

A subtitle appears in the sky: Consumption! Not again!

The bike flies off the roof.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Geschifte malloot!

A subtitle appears in the air: Crazy idiot.

Like a pebble, the Dirt God skips across a lower-sloping roof

And SLAM lands on a small side street.

ALEX (CONT'D)

AUCH. Takke tandjes!

Justin's hand hits the start switch, making the engine "CHAINSAW" back to live.

They ride out the side street, Across a gas station's terrain, SKID a 180 and SHOOT up an empty fed ex truck ramp past the hippie-looking cop GUY and SLAM into the end of the truck.

As Guy pulls the ramp into the truck and the door down. Alex MOANS and GROANS. He slumps to the floor. Both men take their helmets off. Alex watches the bullet hole in his helmet.

JUSTIN

Wow, awesome. That was epic. I have never done that before.

Alex holds his chest in pain with both arms. He stares at Justin like he is contemplating killing him.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

What does takke tandjes mean?

GUY

Little teeth.

Justin's face crumples up. For the first time Justin's eyes look smaller. Alex looks surprised at Guy.

GUY (CONT'D)

I lived in Amsterdam for a while. They have an excellent drugs policy. Hello, my name is GUY. I am from England originally. Hence the accent.

INT. GUY'S APARTMENT - DAY

Guy, comes in looking suspiciously at a giant fig tree. Alex enters, holding his chest until he sees Malloy sitting on a couch. Malloy stands up.

MALLOY

Wait.

Alex is on him, and KAPOW hits him so hard that he lands behind the couch. Guy is unaffected.

GUY

Take a seat, gentlemen.

Guy looks nervously at the fig tree growing across the ceiling again as he sits down. Alex spots a badge on the coffee table.

ALEX

You're a cop?

MALLOY

That's what I said.

ALEX

Do not do a fucking thing except sitting, breathing, looking or blinking without me giving you an order.

Malloy shakes his head and lets out a sigh of annoyance.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Shaking your head and sighing wasn't in there.

Malloy sucks it up and manages to contain himself from doing anything else.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Where were we?

GUY

At me being a cop. A dirty one, I might add. Just like you two have to trust me, I have to trust you two, not turn me in after I help you.

Guy is distracted by the fig tree once more, then focuses again.

GUY (CONT'D)

I only work as a cop because it offers me alternative money-making methods. I do want to live well even when my ball sack has reached the floor. Are we cool?

ALEX

Yeah, we're cool.

Guy looks at the fig tree as he hands Alex a stack of cloths.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Thanks.

Alex and Malloy look at him with question marks on their faces as Alex undresses, and Guy sits staring at the fig tree again.

Guy leaps up and points at the fig tree.

GUY

I flippin' had it with you now!
SIT!

Alex manages to stay unchanged with one leg in a pair of pants. Malloy has lifted his eyebrows. Guy looks at Malloy and Alex.

GUY (CONT'D)

I do apologize. Let me explain. Everybody is in to grass, right? Well, I dig that, but I am more into using a bit of acid or some mushies myself. Quite the veteran, really, when it comes to that stuff. Hippies are so green when it comes to drugs. (laughs) Green. That is quite funny, actually. Anywhoo when I take acid I tend to see a dragon. Now I know it is not real, but every time, the damn beast shows up. It's fidgety, you know, and it distracts me.

(MORE)

GUY (CONT'D)

After a while, it just pisses me off. I can't focus like that. And I like my trips. I don't want to quit over an imaginary dragon. So once, I got so fed up, I screamed "sit" at it, man. Stupid right? But I tell you what, it fucking worked, man. He sat down like a good little doggy and stopped fidgeting. So now when it acts up I tell it to sit and everything is cool. Do you two want to take a trip? Some mushies?

ALEX

I'll take some painkillers if you have them.

GUY

Sure.

Guy looks at Malloy.

MALLOY

No thanks, I am a carnivore.

GUY

That's cool, man, peace.

Malloy looks at Alex for praise but gets ignored. Guy takes something from a crochet bag, a beer from his fridge, hands it to Alex, and sits down again.

GUY (CONT'D)

I can get you a new identity. Cause I found a corps. I haven't called it in yet. So we can have it tucked away in a safe place until you're done and then I find him again. Two stops, and you're officially a changed man.

ALEX

What about Malloy?

Guy looks at Malloy.

GUY

I will put your picture in my passport and in the files at work. So if you get checked outside of New York, you are an off-duty cop on holiday. I have two weeks off tomorrow.

MALLOY

Cool.

ALEX

Speaking of pictures. (to Malloy)
Did you bring one of Ace's?

MALLOY

Yup.

GUY

Now that you dressed. Let's go to
the butcher. We'll go in my car.

MALLOY

Does he do sandwiches? I'm
starving.

Alex gives Malloy a death stare. Guy grabs his crochet bag.
They head out. Before locking up, he points at the fig tree.

GUY

Stay!

Guy locks up.

GUY (O.C.) (CONT'D)

I have never tried stay on him.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Alex, Guy, and Malloy walk past the now black bike again.

MALLOY

(Carefully)

I hope he stays. I don't think a
dragon will fit in the car.

ALEX

Shut the fuck up or I will break
your jaw this time!

MALLOY

I am trying to cheer you up.

ALEX

Stop trying. (to Guy) I need to
stop somewhere first.

INT. CAR - DAY

Guy and Malloy watch Alex crawl under the nightly home porch.

MALLOY
Are you sure you fed him
painkillers?

GUY
Positive.

TRACEY (O.C.)
Hey.

Guy and Malloy look at Cop Tracey.

GUY
Hi.

EXT. KNIGHTLY HOME - UNDER THE PORCH - DAY

Hands dig up a box, take a stack of money out, and stuffs it
in his bell bottoms.

INT. CAR - DAY

TRACEY
What are you doing here?

GUY
I have picked up Mister Malloy, who
volunteered for questioning.

Malloy peeks at the house.

EXT. KNIGHTLY HOME - GARDEN - DAY

Alex crawls out from under the porch. Alex brushes dirt off
his knees.

INT. CAR - DAY

MALLOY
I've known the bastard since the
King adopted him. I'm happy to help
the gobshite back to jail.

EXT. KNIGHTLY HOME - DAY

A DOOR OPENS.

Alex freezes as he sees Tracey look in his direction.

ELENORE
Jonathan! How was it in England?

Elenore puts her arms around Alex. She kisses his cheeks.

ELENORE (CONT'D)
(Whispers)
I was so happy when I found out
that you married her. I'm glad she
got to experience marrying the one
she loved.

INT. CAR - DAY

An Anxious Guy and Malloy watch Tracey watching Alex and Elenore.

REGINA
Trace!

Tracey looks behind her. Guy and Malloy turn to see pregnant cop Regina waddling up to their squad car.

TRACEY
Relieved?

REGINA (O.C.)
Ow yeah.

TRACEY
(To Guy)
If she gets pregnant again, I'm
getting a portable toilet for in
the trunk.

Tracey looks at Alex and Elenore again.

REGINA (O.C.)
It's lunchtime right?

TRACEY
Shoot me. (to Guy) See ya.

She walks off.

TRACEY (O.C.) (CONT'D)
No! We have a fugitive to catch!

EXT. KNIGHTLY HOME - DAY

ELENORE
Go find my granddaughter, son.

Alex tears up, nodding.

INT. CAR - DAY

A freaked-out Guy and Malloy watch a nervous Alex hurry over and climb into the car.

MALLOY

Drive.

INT. BUTCHER SHOP - WALK-IN MEAT COOLER - DAY

Guy, Malloy, Alex, and butcher RICK stand amongst half cows hanging in rows from meat hooks. Another butcher, GARY is preparing to cut up half a cow.

GUY

(To Rick)

Hey, my man. How is it hanging?

RICK

Still, neatly in a row. We've got great steady shrinkage, and a nice deep royal purple color.

GUY

I can't wait to taste them.

GUY (CONT'D)

(To Alex)

This is the best place to be on a scorching hot summer's day. We played poker in here once, man; awesome. (to Rick) Anywhoo, we've come about the Popsicle.

Guy points at a dead man, wrapped up in plastic, sitting on a desk chair.

ALEX

Poor man.

GUY

(To Rick)

Alex agreed, so we have a deal. Here is the money for the storage.

Guy hands an envelope to Rick.

RICK

Thanks. I'll get the stuff out of the safe for you.

Rick walks off.

ALEX
What's his name?

GUY
Mackenzie Preston.

MALLOY
That sounds like a chick's name.

Malloy looks at Alex, expecting him to get mad again. But he's not. He's thinking.

ALEX
You know that might not be such a bad idea. I can be another man dressed up as a woman.

GUY
Yes, I agree. It will be much harder for Ace, and police, to recognize you that way. Yes, disguising a man, as a man, as a woman is a good idea indeed. Well done, Malloy.

MALLOY
You're crazy.

ALEX
The cops and Ace will have a hard time recognizing me.

Malloy looks at the dead man, then at the half cows hanging on hooks.

MALLOY
He is right next to the food.

ALEX
He is in plastic.

MALLOY
What if someone comes to check out the place for hygiene regulations?

GUY
They pay him off.

Gary cuts a piece of meat from half a hanging cow, to Malloy's disgust. Rick hands Guy a plastic bag.

GUY (CONT'D)
Right on. Thanks, man.

Malloy alternates, looking at Gary butchering the cow and the dead man. He turns whiter than white and starts to gag.

ALEX
No, Malloy, you can't puke in here!

Malloy looks around frantically, grabs the plastic bag, and pukes into it.

RICK
(To Malloy)
Pop sickles and beef sandwiches
will never be the same after this,
huh, badass?

Rick starts to laugh.

MALLOY
(To Rick)
How about I make a stew out of your
fecking minute steak ass?

ALEX
Shut it.

GUY
Well, that is it for now. We'll
stay in touch.

RICK
Okay, man.

GUY
Bye, Rick, keep it cool.

Alex, Guy, and Malloy leave the cooler. Rick winks at Malloy.

EXT. MACKENZIE HOME - NIGHT

The three men look at a family home that has seen better days.

GUY
The key to it is in the plastic
bag.

Malloy pulls an "oh fuck" face.

ALEX
You puked. You get the key.

Malloy is disgusted at the idea. Malloy takes the plastic bag and gets out of the car.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I am so glad that Malloy made that woman joke.

GUY

The universe hands out gifts like that all the time man. You just have to be in the moment and pay attention to see them.

ALEX

Yeah, I should have paid attention sooner.

GUY

You could have died without ever getting it, man. Be grateful for that. Leave the past in the past.

ALEX

Thank you, Guy. I am going to try and keep that in mind.

Malloy hurls as his dirty hand holds a key up to the window. Alex and Guy get out.

INT. MACKENZIE'S HOME - NIGHT

Alex and Malloy stand frozen in the door opening. They are in a Mexican standoff with a viciously growling Great Dane. Guy looks over their shoulders to see what is making the noise.

GUY

(whispers)
Magnus Canis Lupis Familiaris.

ALEX

(whispers to Malloy)
Your gun.

MALLOY

(whispers)
I left it in the car.

ALEX

(whispers)
Why?

MALLOY

(whispers)

Well, Mackenzie seemed to have such a laid-back, and chill personality that I didn't think it was fucking necessary did I?

Something flies by, between their faces. The dog eats it up. It growls less threateningly. Alex and Malloy look at Guy.

GUY

Mushroom. It has not had lunch or dinner.

Guy carefully walks up to the dog, throwing it another. As the dog eats he takes a syringe out and sticks it in its ass. It lies down on its side, now harmless.

MALLOY

He's got a fucking Mary Poppins drug bag!

ALEX

From now on, you have your gun on you at all times.

MALLOY

You think you are really something, pointing out my mistakes, huh? Don't you think a gun would have been a bit of a noisy solution for a dog in a suburban area?

ALEX

At least we would still have an even count of balls afterward. Besides, Guy is a cop.

GUY

Chiefs, let's sit down and smoke some peace pipes so we can all calm down, alright? Don't touch anything and drop your ash in your pocket.

The men sit smoking, watching the dog moving its legs.

MALLOY

What is happening to it?

GUY

I gave it some Ketamine. His mind and body have lost contact with reality.

(MORE)

GUY (CONT'D)

He's having hallucinations, is feeling euphoric, like he is floating. Basically, he's just gotten the best doggy treat ever.

The men laugh.

GUY (CONT'D)

All right. We will make it look like Mackenzie has gone away because he wanted to. Alex, you pack up all of his stuff. I will work on replacing Mackenzie's passport picture with yours. Malloy, you put the dog in my car.

MALLOY

What?

ALEX

Why?

MALLOY

Yeah, why?

Guy points to a picture of Mackenzie and the Great Dane.

GUY

It was his dog. Where Mackenzie goes, the dog goes. I will take it on.

Guy gets up and goes to pet the dog.

MALLOY

Aahh, a playmate for dragon breath.

Alex gives Malloy a "watch it" look.

ALEX

Put the dog in the car.

Guy looks at the dog's tag and giggles.

GUY

His name is Bastard.

Alex looks at Malloy.

ALEX

Relative?

Malloy shakes his head as Alex heads upstairs. Malloy drags the spaced-out Great Dane through the house by it's legs.

MALLOY

(to himself)

Oh he's so fucking funny. Relative?
Shut up, don't puke here, get the
key, take care of the dog. (To the
dog) Work with me you fucking
Bastard. I tell you what, Bastard
is a good name for you. He should
have named you big Bastard though.
My god what the hell did he feed
you? 72-ounce steaks? (to himself)
Steaks. Oh fuck, stop talking
Malloy.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Malloy struggles to carry Bastard out of the house. His back legs drag along the floor between Malloy's legs, who waddles because of it, HUFFING and PUFFING.

A mother with a six-year-old boy stares at him. The boy starts to cry.

MALLOY

He got his balls clipped.

The mother's disgusted as Malloy waddles across the street. He wrestles to get the car door open, and Bastard into the backseat.

INT. MACKENZIE'S HOME - KITCHEN - NIGHT

GUY

You are good to go chief. Where are you going to start?

Alex shakes hands with Guy.

ALEX

Vegas. He was into "take out".
Thank you for everything. Hey, can I hire you to help my dad with a pig infestation?

GUY

Baxter, and Fred I reckon? Happily.
They give pigs a bad name.

Alex takes a stack of money from his pants and hands it to Guy. Then gives him another stack.

ALEX
 For the "ball sack hitting the
 floor" fund.

Guy takes the envelope and laughs.

GUY
 You are all right Alex. Good luck
 with everything.

ALEX
 Thanks.

INT. CAR - DAY

ALEX
 Before we go to Nevada, you have to
 get me clothes and stuff.

As Malloy drives Mackenzie's car out of the garage, they spot
 Guy driving past. A drunk-looking Bastard looks out the
 window. Alex and Malloy burst into laughter.

ALEX (CONT'D)
 Let's go.

EXT. GASSTATION - NIGHT

Malloy leans against the car, smoking, when a good-looking
 woman, dressed to a T, comes out of the bathroom carrying a
 handbag and a pink suitcase. It's Alex.

**From now on, Alex is dressed up and speaks as a woman until
 you get a heads up that he is himself again.**

MALLOY
 Well, fuck me.

Men are checking Alex out. Who stops, puts the suitcase down,
 takes a packet of cigarettes from his handbag, and drops
 them.

ALEX
 (mumbles)
 Fuck.

As he bends to pick them up the men WHISTLE. Alex takes a
 lighter from his bosom, lights up, and heads to the car.

He hands the suitcase to Malloy, who opens the passenger door
 with a straight face. Alex looks in the rearview mirror.

In a CLOSE-UP of the REARVIEW MIRROR - we see an open trunk, when it closes Malloy's grinning from ear to ear.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Malloy gets into the car; his grin has vanished.

MALLOY

To Vegas.

INT. RENO NEVADA - SUNSET MOTEL - RECEPTION - NIGHT

Nacked Alex, carrying whiskey in his handbag, and Malloy; with pink suitcase stand at the desk of "can't be bothered" SUSAN.

ALEX

A room for two, with separate beds for tonight, please.

Susan throws a set of keys on the desk.

SUSAN

Third one on the left.

MALLOY

Have a great stay. Why, thank you.

SUSAN

Oh, go fuck.

INT. RENO NEVADA - SUNSET MOTEL - ROOM - NIGHT

Malloy turns the TV on, lights a cigarette, grabs the remote, and sits down on the bed. He flicks through a few channels then chooses to watch the series "Kung Fu."

INT. RENO NEVADA - SUNSET MOTEL - ROOM - BATHROOM

As the SHOWER RUNS, Alex grabs the toothbrush glass and fills it with whiskey.

INT. RENO NEVADA - SUNSET MOTEL - ROOM - NIGHT

Alex hands Malloy the bottle.

MALLOY

I'll take the glass man; you have the bottle.

ALEX

I have not had booze in ages. A glass is a bottle to me.

INT. RENO NEVADA - SUNSET MOTEL - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Alex sits in the shower, with closed eyes, drinking whiskey.

ALEX

(to himself)

Mother fucker.

He shakes no with his head.

INT. RENO NEVADA - SUNSET MOTEL - ROOM - NIGHT

Drunk Alex enters in a boxer and high heels. Malloy lies passed out on the bed.

Alex sits down on the end of the bed, talking to the main character from the TV's "Kung Fu."

ALEX

Tell me, he takes away your life and you feel the need to get even steven. You would probably use a weapon, right? Something impressive and Deadly. Something cool. Like a katana sword.

Alex is pensive. His head lowers.

ALEX (CONT'D)

What have I got?

Something comes to him.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Killer heels

Alex bursts out laughing. He gets up and slaps his knees while laughing.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Killer heels!

He then loses his balance and falls forward. SLAMMING his head into a desk. He is knocked out.

INT. RENO NEVADA - SUNSET MOTEL - ROOM - DAY

Malloy rocks Alex's body with his foot.

MALLOY

Alex?

Alex moans.

MALLOY (CONT'D)

You okay, man?

Alex sits up. He rubs his head with his hands.

ALEX

(sarcastic Dutch)
Absolutely fine.

MALLOY

I don't speak Dutch man. Are you okay?

ALEX

(to himself)
When I take the shoe from my foot,
it will be time for you to leave.

MALLOY

Sure man. Hey, I don't know about you, but I need to eat. I am going to get some food and put gas in the car. Do you, want something?

ALEX

Yes, any dead animal between a bun will do for the lion. Fluid wise, anything without alcohol.

Malloy looks funny at Alex.

MALLOY

Lion? (laughs) All right, lion, meet your furry ass at the car in an hour?

Alex raises his thumb.

ALEX

(Dutch)
Hunky-dory.

MALLOY

How are we going to find Ace?

ALEX

There are eleven brothels. We just ask around in the area's around them.

Malloy nods leaving the hotel room.

INT. CAR - DAY

Alex gets in. Malloy hands him a brown paper bag.

MALLOY

Your meat between buns.

Alex looks suspiciously at Malloy, who still has a straight face on. Alex takes the bag. He looks at Malloy.

MALLOY (CONT'D)

Alex, I made the call.

Malloy starts crying. Alex has never seen Malloy this.

MALLOY (CONT'D)

I thought it was just rubbers.

Alex puts his hand on Malloy's shoulder and squeezes it.

ALEX

(Own voice)

Well, folks that was the news, and now the weather forecast by Mackenzie Preston. (female voice)
The weather forecast for today is blue skies

Malloy is surprised.

ALEX (CONT'D)

With a testie shit storm about to hit Nevada.

Alex takes a bite out of his sandwich in a way that won't mess up his lipstick. Through his tears, Malloy starts a thundering belly laugh. Alex joins in as they drive off.

COLLAGE OF SHOWING ACE'S PICTURE AT PEOPLE, no one recognizes him.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

A tired Alex and Malloy take a seat at the bar. Bartender TUCKER comes over.

TUCKER

Yes?

MALLOY

A steak, well done, with fries and a beer, please.

ALEX

(To Malloy)

Getting right back on the horse huh? (To Tucker) Same for me please.

TUCKER

Coming right up.

Tucker puts the beers in front of them.

ALEX

I am going to the ladies' room.

Tucker puts their meals on the bar as Alex heads for the toilet. Malloy starts eating.

ALEX (O.C.) (CONT'D)

Did you just grab my ass?

Malloy turns around to see what is going on. Alex is talking to two men eating together at a table.

ASS GRABBER

It's a compliment. You have a great ass. I'm Jack, and he's Ryan.

Alex grabs Jack's balls and squeezes. Jack squeals while Ryan watches it go down in surprise.

ALEX

It's sexual harassment.

Alex pulls him out of his chair.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Women don't need it. They know they're all that.

Alex's fist KAPOW'S him in his crouch.

ALEX (CONT'D)

It's to let you know you were a dick. (wink)

Malloy laughs. Jack's friend comes for Alex. Malloy punches him. He flies over a table, BREAKING a chair upon landing.

MALLOY
 (To Alex)
 Duck!

Alex ducks. A beer bottle ZOOMS by over his head. As Jack crawls back up, Malloy catches the bottle and BREAKS it on Jack's head.

MALLOY (CONT'D)
 Stay!

Jack goes down again. Alex put a heel on Jack's chest. He bends over to look at him.

ALEX
 You really should not mess with my
 man when he's hungry.

Malloy giggles, then spots Ryan coming.

MALLOY
 Six o'clock!

Alex kicks a heel backward into Ryan's crouch. He crumbles to the floor, SQUEALING.

MALLOY (CONT'D)
 Now let's all be civilized and
 finish our meals just like our
 mummies taught us. Your prick ship
 has spoken.

Alex grins.

ALEX
 Well said, darling.

Alex and Malloy go back to eating. Tucker comes up to them.

TUCKER
 Now listen here.

Alex pulls money out of his bra and places it on the counter.

TUCKER (CONT'D)
 More beer?

ALEX
 Please. Hey, we are looking for
 this guy.

Alex places a picture of Ace on the table and starts eating.

TUCKER
Yeah, he's from the PPP, isn't he?

ALEX
Ppp?

TUCKER
Prime pussy palace.

ALEX
Wow. Do you know if they have any female bartenders?

TUCKER
Yeah Summer. She's been there for years.

ALEX
Can you describe her to me?

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Malloy sleeps behind the wheel. Alex looks at the PPP in thought.

Alex gets out of the car with his handbag. The door SLAMS shut.

MALLOY
Bell pepper!

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - MAIN AREA - DAY

Alex walks to the bar.

SUMMER
Hi, I'm Summer. Are you looking to turn tricks?

ALEX
Mackenzie. Yes, cocktail tricks.

BABY CRYING over an intercom. Alex falls silent as Summer presses the button.

SUMMER
Hello, little Chevy is your little engine empty? Do you want some yummy fuel? I'll be up in a minute.

PPP runner DIXIE drives past on her mobility scooter.

DIXIE

How many times have I told you to stop reacting to every cry? She'll never stop crying like this.

She stops driving.

DIXIE (CONT'D)

You will feed her after preparing the bar.

SUMMER

Yes, Dixie.

Alex watches Dixie drive past a toilet before parking next to the door marked "private." Dixie holds on to the walls as she enters the door. Summer gives Alex a look of embarrassment.

ACE (O.C.)

Why didn't you just get Dixie a giraffe to spread it's legs?

Summer and Alex turn around. Ace stares up at Alex making his cuffs spin.

ALEX

I can spread your skull for you.

SUMMER

Mackenzie is a bartender.

Ace looks suspiciously at Alex from top to bottom.

ALEX

I am a woman trapped in a man's body. I hope to have an operation one day to put things right if you must know.

ACE

Well, your name is already girly.

He laughs like a bully at a first grader.

ACE (CONT'D)

Do you really want to chop your business off and get tits?

ALEX

Yes.

ACE

Can I see them when it is done?

ALEX

Sure, if I can see yours first. I have never seen anyone who has a dick and tits before.

Ace falls quiet. Summer gets nervous. Ace laughs loudly.

ACE

That is the first and only bitchy comment you get away with, Mackenzie.

ALEX

Duly noted.

Ace enters the "private" door. Summer hands Alex a notepad and pen.

SUMMER

Just write down your name and number. I'll put you on the reserve list.

Alex smiles, and writes something down.

SUMMER (CONT'D)

Thank you. Good luck.

Alex smiles takes a piece of pineapple, and points to the bathroom. Summer nods, and gets back to work.

When Alex reaches the bathroom, with a condom vending machine in it, he checks to see if Summer isn't looking.

And slips into the door marked "private."

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - STAIRCASE - NIGHT

Alex takes his red pumps off and walks up a tacky red velvet staircase with an electric lift attached to it.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - DIXIE'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

MUSIC PLAYS over A BABY CRYING (O.C.)

Dixie sits on the toilet reading a magazine, SINGING along.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - NIGHT

BABY CRYING

Alex walks down the long wooden hallway lined with numbered doors.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - OFFICE - NIGHT

An annoyed Ace looks up from his desk.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - UPSTAIRS CORRIDOR - NIGHT

BABY CRYING

Alex reads "office" on the left door. He listens and look right. The right reads "storage". Alex's face darkens.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - STORAGE ROOM - NIGHT

BABY CRYING

In the middle of stored sex toys, administration, and furniture stands a plastic bassinet with his daughter in it.

ALEX

Oh my God.

He picks her up. He puts his pinky in her mouth. She goes quiet.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Hi. I'm your daddy.

The baby looks at his hair, the scarf around his neck, and his necklace. Alex gets emotional.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Hi. Your name isn't Chevy. They're fibbing. It is Philomena Fox Malloy. Philly for short. Just like your mama.

He gives her the piece of pineapple, which she likes. While she sucks on it, he spots a card in it's cardholder. He takes it out.

On the card: New York Presbyterian, Baby girl King 07-13-1968

ALEX (CONT'D)

(Whispers)

That's all we need.

Alex takes the card and puts it in his bra. He opens the door.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - OFFICE - NIGHT

Ace is surprised. He gets up and opens the door.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Ace looks at Alex walking down the corridor. BABY JABBER.

ACE
Mackenzie?

Alex hurries around the corner onto the stairway. Ace pulls out his gun as he runs down the hallway.

ACE (CONT'D)
Mackenzie!

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - STAIRWAY - NIGHT

Alex rushes down the stairway.

Ace runs down the stairway.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - MAIN AREA - NIGHT

Alex runs across the room

ALEX
Summer hide.

Alex heads through the doors. Ace comes out the private door, and is on his tail.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - HALL - NIGHT

Alex tries the front door. It's locked. He enters the cloakroom.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - CLOAKROOM - NIGHT

RRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR

He pulls the cloakroom window roller shutter down, and locks the door.

SLAMS the door shut, locks it. He flips a desk on its side and shoves it before the door. He looks at the barred window. He BREAKS the glass with a red pump.

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Malloy's hand, moves a soda can towards his mouth, stops moving.

MALLOY

Huh?

He squints to see a man-sized red pump tumble to a stop in the parking lot.

MALLOY (CONT'D)

Oh shit.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - HALL - NIGHT

Ace shoots at the cloakroom door lock, then rams it like an American football player.

A car CRASHES in through the front wall. Ramming Ace to the ground. Plasterboard, bricks, and beams fly around, creating a dust cloud. BRAKING. Malloy gets out of the car with a pointed gun but can't see a thing.

MALLOY

Hold it right there Ace.

Ace recognizes Malloy's voice. He spots his feet below the dust cloud, grabs a beam, and swings. BAM Malloy falls down like a felled tree.

ACE

You were saying?

MALLOY

Khiiiiiiihhh wuooooorrrrr

Ace laughs at a confused Malloy as he picks up his gun. Malloy doesn't get what's going on with him. Ace leaves him, and KICKS IN the cloakroom door.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

Hey

Mally looks at African American man, FIN, sitting on the roof of the car.

GUNSHOT, FIGHTING (O.C.)

FIN

That mother fucker has hit you so hard that you got expressive Aphasia.

(MORE)

FIN (CONT'D)

You understand everything, but when it comes to talking and writing, you're basically back in the stone age. You also have a delirium which conjured up my ass. Now this all sucks balls, but if you don't do something right now, he'll make you, Alex, and the baby go quiet forever.

Malloy is still staring.

FIN (CONT'D)

Get up, mother fucker! Look for something to fuck him up with. Take this damn card off the table, man!

INT. CLOAKROOM - NIGHT

Ace and Alex are in a struggle for the gun. BAM Alex is shot in the shoulder.

Malloy enters. Through Malloy's eyes we see a letter spike standing on the drawer counter cabinet.

FIN

A fucking letter spike? Oh, I get it. You're going to politely ask him to sit still while you jab him the three hundred and seventy times needed to take his ass out. Do you want to die? God, tell me he's joking.

Malloy swings a desk drawer; WHACK Ace is unconscious. Malloy looks at Fin.

FIN (CONT'D)

My bad.

Alex cuffs Ace with his own cuffs.

Heads up: Alex talks in his own voice again from now on.

ALEX

Thanks.

Alex takes his keys.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

MALLOY

Whi ye prr

BAM- WHOOSH- A bullet flies past them.

DIXIE

Ace baby?

Alex grabs Malloy's gun from Ace's hand, and puts it to Ace's head, dragging him to Dixie sitting on her mobility scooter with her chin covered in shaving foam.

ALEX

Drop the gun or lose a boyfriend.

CLUNK, the shotgun is dropped.

Alex kicks it away, takes the keys out of the mobility scooter, takes a scarf off his neck, and ties her hands together.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Your parents picked the perfect name for you. You piece of shit.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - HALL - NIGHT

Alex checks on Malloy.

ALEX

I will just get Philly and then we'll get out of here.

Nevada drug lord VICTOR, and his three goons holding Uzi guns walk up to him.

VICTOR

Might I suggest letting go of the gun?

Alex, lets go. CLUNK

VICTOR (CONT'D)

(To two goons)

Get the car out and clean it up.
(to the third) Pat, let's go to the garage. Blood is so tricky to get out of a carpet, even if the carpet is red.

Summer's head comes up behind the bar.

VICTOR (CONT'D)
Go home, Summer.

INT. CLUB - NIGHT

A fifties costume party is in full swing in the Kings Quarter. An Ace look alike patrols the place busy looking down at the peanuts he's eating.

INT. CLUB - ATTIC - NIGHT

Guy watches the security monitors.

GUY
And action.

He giggles.

INT. KINGS QUARTER - OFFICE - NIGHT

Lou's handles stacks of cash. Baxter and Fred enter. Lou acts surprised and drops a stack.

BAXTER
Well well.

LOU
You can't just walk in here

FRED
I've got a badge that says I can.

Baxter picks up the stack.

BAXTER
Malloy just said that you want to pack up the Kings quarter.

LOU
I do. The old King is dead and it was his club. I want to retire. I am not like him.

BAXTER
Well, that is not going to happen. You will keep things just as they were and give us eighty percent since you already seem to have enough money to afford retirement, or we will put you in jail like your son.

Lou acts surprised and hands eighty percent of the cash over to Baxter.

BAXTER (CONT'D)

Thank you.

INT. KINGS QUARTER - ATTIC - NIGHT

Guy smiles in the light of the security TV screens.

GUY

No, thank you.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - GARAGE - NIGHT

Victor and Pat look at Alex and Malloy, sitting tied up, on chairs. Ace pulls Alex's hair.

ALEX

Do you mind?

ACE

Girly hair fits you.

VICTOR

The escaped King? Well, well, I never thought I would say this but: "Call the cops."

ALEX

Wait. Dixie runs the PPP, right? So, Ace must do something else. Your men carry Uzi's so, you're into something valuable. He sells coke for you, right?

Victor doesn't budge.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I saw the vending machine.

Victor is intrigued.

ACE

I'll call the cops.

VICTOR

Wait, what does that mean?

ALEX

We sold our coke through a condom vending machine.

(MORE)

ALEX (CONT'D)

He always talked about cutting it up further for bigger profits. He stole condoms, booze, coke, and my daughter. Just saying.

Victor looks at Ace.

ACE

He's the escaped convict here.

ALEX

And if he did. Dixie was in on it.

VICTOR

Pat, give me your Uzi and go check out the vending machine.

Pat leaves. Everyone waits with Victor's Uzi pointed at them. Alex looks at Malloy, who's blood pours down his face.

ALEX

You okay?

Malloy grumbles. Everyone sizes each other up for what seems like ages. Finally, Pat walks in with a packet of coke. Ace turns white.

PAT

He's right. It tasted like crap.

Victor hands the Uzi back to Pat, who points it at Ace. Victor dips his finger in the packet and tastes it. His face darkens.

VICTOR

Do you see anything else in your crystal ball?

ALEX

The police have been looking for him for a year because he kidnapped my daughter so, storing money in the bank wasn't an option.

VICTOR

Pat?

Pat walks to the door.

ALEX

I would go to his office first.

Later: Two garbage bags are PLUMPED down on the floor. Bills pour out of it.

VICTOR

Shoot Ace.

Ace's arms come up.

ALEX

No! That's too easy; please don't.
Let me call a friend.

VICTOR

Hmm.

ALEX

You are very trigger-happy.

VICTOR

I don't correct mistakes. I erase
them.

ALEX

Malloy needs some medical
attention.

VICTOR

So do you.

ALEX

It went through.

VICTOR

Alright. If you and Pat get Ace and
Dixie to the warehouse, I will take
your friend for medical attention.

ALEX

Malloy?

Malloy grumbles.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I am taking that as a yes. (to Pat)
I need to get my daughter first.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - CLOAKROOM - NIGHT

Pat watches Alex move some coats on a rack. Revealing little
Philly, sucking on a piece of pineapple, hanging in an upside-
down trench coat knotted onto the bar, with her legs through
its sleeves and the belt tied around her waist.

ALEX

Hello Philly. Daddy's here.

PAT
Awww, she's a cutie.

INT. PRIME PUSSY PALACE - GARAGE - NIGHT

Alex, holding Philly, and Pat drag Dixie to the van.

PAT
Holy mammoth. I might tear my
distal bi-tendons and slip a disk.

ALEX
Let's move the van instead.

PLOP Dixie's upper body hits the floor. They walk to the garage door.

PAT
So, does it really hurt to walk in
heels?

ALEX
It does. It freaking hurts, just
like bra straps. They are cutting
into me just from the weight of two
pairs of socks. Imagine what it
would feel like if you were
carrying mangoes around in it.

PAT
Like carrying an AK 47 around all
day on floss wire.

ALEX
Exactly and don't even get me
started on wearing stockings while
having long nails.

PAT
Like sneezing while packaging coke.

ALEX
Yeah, a bad combo.

They both laugh.

INT. WAREHOUSE - GARAGE - NIGHT

A van door slides open. Ace and Dixie lie inside with two garbage bags.

VICTOR
 Malloy is getting fixed by my
 friend Fred.(to Pat) watch them.

Victor puts an arm around Alex.

VICTOR (CONT'D)
 Let's go see your friend before we
 focus on the trash.

INT. WAREHOUSE - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Malloy lies on the conference table, covered in operating
 sheets. Surgeon FRED is operating on Malloy's skull. He stops
 for a second.

FRED
 That is far enough, you know,
 hygiene.

VICTOR
 Hello Fred, how is our patient
 doing?

FRED
 He got a whopping good hit. I am
 fixing what I can. The rest is up
 to him. He is not going to die.
 That much I do know.

Fred continues operating. From under the cloth:

MALLOY (O.C.)
 Diiiiiiiihhhhhhh goaaaaaaaaaa

FRED
 Put a sock in it, mister Malloy. I
 can not understand what you are
 saying, so why speak? I have told
 you this more then once already.

Alex is gobsmacked.

ALEX
 He is awake?

FRED
 The brain has no pain receptors, so
 a local for the outside is enough.

Victor puts a hand on Alex's arm.

VICTOR
Let's leave Fred to it, shall we?

ALEX
(To Malloy)
Good luck, buddy.

Malloy sticks a hand out from under the green cloth, and gives Alex the finger. Alex laughs emotionally

ALEX (CONT'D)
Love you too, honey. Be nice to Fred now.

INT. WAREHOUSE - GARAGE - DAY

Guy and Alex look at coughed Ace.

ACE
Who are you?

Guy reaches inside his bag. Alex smiles.

GUY
The sandman.

Guy sticks him with a needle. Ace passes out.

ALEX
Thanks for coming all this way.

GUY
No problem.

Alex shakes hands with Pat and Victor who hands him a shopping bag with money.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Ace lies tied up in the back seat next to Guy. Alex drives. Malloy sits in the passenger seat with Philly in his lap, who's trying to unwrap the present which is his head.

MALLOY
Kaaaa uo

PHILLY
Goo gaa

ALEX
Hey, you're speaking her language.

Malloy pulls a face.

INT. POLICE OFFICE - DAY

Police captain TAGGERD is addressing all the officers in the precinct. Among them are Baxter and Frank.

TAGGERD

I want you to squeeze your snitches
talk to every hooker, every
lowlife, and visit every sleazy
motel. This guy is making us look
like idiots, and I am not going to
stand for it. You got that?

Everyone looks up, flabbergasted, when Guy comes in holding Philly and a bag, with Alex and Malloy beside him, carrying Ace.

GUY

Captain, do you have a minute?

A stupefied Taggerd nods. Baxter and Frank look at each other with worry.

TAGGERD

Skip the last bit. Back to work,
everyone.

INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Ace lies on the floor. On the table in front of Guy, Malloy, Taggerd, and Alex holding Philly, lies a bag of tapes. All men are looking at a TV on a cart.

On the screen:

Lou, Baxter and Fred are talking in the Kings Quarter office.

LOU

I do. The old King is dead it was
his club. I want to retire. I am
not like him.

BAXTER

Well, that is not going to happen.
You will keep things just as they
were, and give us eighty percent
since you already seem to have
enough money to afford retirement,
or we will put you in jail.

TAGGERD

Well, I'll be damned.

Guy holds up another tape.

GUY

This one shows Alex wasn't the last to leave the building the night the coke was taken. If you watch the rest you will see that Lou didn't come forward with them because Baxter and Frank threatened him.

TAGGERD

Where did you get these tapes?

GUY

I found these tapes in Baxter's shed. Now I know, Sir that I didn't have a warrant, but maybe you could ask for one now, on suspicions of corruption, and pretend you found them all over again in order to clear an innocent man, jail two corrupt cops, find a kidnapped child and put an end to a decades-long drug enterprise?

Taggerd thinks.

GUY (CONT'D)

You were the one who sent me to Las Vegas on a hunch, weren't you? I would be happy to tell the press about it, of course.

ALEX

Me too.

TAGGERD

Put them all in holding while I make a call.

Alex looks at Philly with hope.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

An out-of-it, cuffed Ace is put in a patrol car. Alex, holding Philly, is being interviewed by reporter MARIA.

MARIA

I am standing here with Alex King, who is cleared of all charges.

(MORE)

MARIA (CONT'D)

As Ace King, his brother, is taken to jail to serve a twenty year sentence for kidnapping a child. Alex, what is it like to be a free and holding your daughter in your arms?

ALEX

It is the best feeling in the world. It would not have happened if it wasn't for Captain Taggart, police officer Guy, and my best friends Fox, Palmer, and Malloy, Justin, Victor, Pat, Aletta, and Helena.

INT. JAIL - CHOW HALL - DAY

Fox and Palmer watch a TV hanging from the ceiling in the corner of the hall.

FOX AND PALMER

Awwwwwww.

INT. FOSTER RETIREMENT HOME - COMMUNAL LIVING ROOM

A group of seniors clap for a proudly smiling Helena and Aletta, with Alex on the TV behind them.

INT. JAIL - CELL - DAY

Ace wakes up. In disbelief he looks around the cell, decorated in Dutch scenery. He reads what is written on the wall.

ALEX (V.O.)

After becoming a King, and receiving all the care, love, and support anyone could want, you've still turned out worse than your mother.

ACE

No. NO!

Ace SCREAMS, and CURSES at the top of his lungs.

INT. DINER - DAY

Alex sits in a booth near a window. Philly sits on his lap. A seemingly tired, Minnie comes to his booth.

MINNIE

Hello, my name is Minnie. I'll be your waitress. What will it be for you, and the little cutie?

Alex recognizes her but keeps quiet.

ALEX

Hello Minnie, we will have two hot dogs with fries, a coffee, and a strawberry milkshake please.

MINNIE

Coming right up.

Alex takes in the atmosphere. Minnie brings him his coffee, and his food.

MINNIE (CONT'D)

There you go. Enjoy you two.

ALEX

Wow, you are quick. Thank you, Minnie.

Alex starts eating. A few flower power girls, point and giggle. Alex ignores it. SASHA, one of the flower power girls comes over wearing a multicolored crochet bikini top and a rainbow skirt that barely covers her ass. She sits down next to him.

SASHA

Your threads ain't blazin', man. You look like an undertaker.

ALEX

You look like you're colorblind.

SASHA

Hey, I love you, man.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Dig?

ALEX

Dig?

SASHA

Totally.

Sasha walks back to her booth. Minnie watches Alex trying to work out what just happened.

MINNIE

Are you okay?

ALEX

I am okay. Thank you. I feel like I am from another planet.

MINNIE

(whispers)

Everyone over twenty-five does. The music, and scene isn't for everybody.

ALEX

(whispers)

My song has been jailhouse rock for a while now. So was the scene.

MINNIE

I see. Well, since you brought Elvis into it, let me try to explain it to you with his songs.

She looks around to see if anyone is watching her. She sits down across from him.

MINNIE (CONT'D)

Lets see.

She thinks for a second.

MINNIE (CONT'D)

With the youth here, there is a whole lotta shakin' goin' on. They can't help falling in love. There all shook up. Wild in the country. Riding the rainbow, on the green green grass of home. Saying wonderful world, money honey? Witchcraft! Return to sender, Rip it up, love me; it feels so right.

She makes a peace sign.

MINNIE (CONT'D)

Peace in the valley. This is our dance, life. You dig?

He smiles.

ALEX

Dig. Minnie, I am Alex, Alex King,
with long hair and a beard.

Minnie's jaw drops.

MINNIE

I tried to

Alex grabs her hand.

ALEX

I know. You were incredibly brave.
I was wondering.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

Can I order?

MANAGER (O.S)

Minnie?

ALEX

I am going to turn the Kings
Quarter into a clean club. I would
like to run it with you if you
want. Take all the time you need to
hink about it.

Alex puts a stack of bills in her apron.

MAN (O.C.)

Miss?

ALEX

I'm sorry it took me so long to
thank you.

He lifts Philly, and smells her. His face shows "number
two".

MANAGER (O.C.)

Minnie!

ALEX

Excuse me, a bomb went off.

MINNIE

Sure.

Minnie gets back to work, smiling. Alex puts money on the
table, and heads to the bathroom with Philly. Minnie peeks
into her apron, smiling.

MINNIE (CONT'D)
Jailbird? Cool cat is more like it.

Minnie takes the money from the table as she clears it.

MAN (O.S)
(Shouts)
YO! Can I gett some food now, big
ass?

Everyone in the diner looks at Minnie.

MINNIE
Sure.

She grabs Alex's leftovers, walks up to an Italian sour-faced
trucker, and drops them in his lap.

Everybody is silent, waiting for the baffled man to respond.

Little old lady MAGGIE sitting in a booth across from the
male customer, breaks the silence.

MAGGIE
Dinner and a show. I am getting
spoiled today.

She giggles with delight.

EXT. CLUB - DAY

A huge sheet is taken down, revealing a new sign that reads
"The Lion's Den"

INT. THE LION'S DEN - DAY

Alex has a private opening party. All the people he cares
about are there. Lou, Malloy, Fox, Guy, Taggart, Rick,
Justin, Aletta, Helena, Dean, Victor, Pat, Summer ETC.
Everybody is drinking, eating, and talking with each other.

Alex has Philly on his lap, and Minnie, and her daughter
Amare beside him. They are looking at Guy, whose looking
agitated at a palm tree.

ALEX
See what I mean?

MINNIE
Yeah.

Minnie smiles. Malloy laughs too. He slaps Alex's knee.

MALLOY

Aaaaa gioouou waaaaai.

Minnie looks at Alex for an answer.

ALEX

Enter the dragon.

As Alex smiles, Summer walks up him, and Fox, handing them a cocktail each.

SUMMER

One the cat's meow, and a slippery
Fox for the men they are named
after.

Fox takes a zip of "his" cocktail

FOX

I taste good.

Alex takes Fox's drink, and throws it back in one go.

ALEX

You just slip right in there.

Fox's jaw drops. Summer, Minnie, and Alex laugh loudly.
Minnie helps Amare get up on a table.

MINNIE

Excuse me we want to say something!

Malloy comes to stand next to them. He winks at them. Amare looks at a piece of paper.

AMARE

Tonight we are here, daddy, to
celebrate the opening of your
nightclub, The Lion's Den. Everyone
has pitched in to give you these
presents.

Malloy walks to two objects covered with satin sheets. He pulls them down, revealing the statues of a white lion and filly.

As everyone CLAPS. Alex is visibly touched. He gets up.

ALEX

Thank you so much. I am honored and
very grateful; thank you. I want to
use this occasion to ask some
people I love something.

Alex looks at Fox and Malloy holding hands with Summer.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Malloy, Summer and Fox. Will you be Philly's Godfather, Godmother and Fairy Godmother?

MALLOY

Qoeehh

He gives a thumbs up.

SUMMER

We would be honored.

FOX

Girl, yes!

Alex takes a jewelry box out of his pocket, and kneels before Minnie. He opens the box; revealing a beautiful ring.

ALEX

Minnie. You stuck up for me against two cops. You spoke up for me when they clobbered me. You took a big risk to stand up for me, but you did it anyway. You told them they were wrong, and you were my witness. Now, I want everyone to witness this; Dear superhero, can I be your sidekick?

Minnie gets emotional.

MINNIE

Yes.

Everyone claps as they kiss.

FADE OUT.