

FADE IN:

INT. ISLANDER BAR - Night

1:50 am in this dark Los Angeles dive bar. Barely seen in the shadows tattered carpet matches the peeling Polynesian wallpaper of bare breasted women carrying baskets of plenty. It's the kind of place where retired COPS drink their pensions in the corners, ignoring the drugs and guns being sold over the bar.

The FAT BARTENDER cleans glasses. HECTOR, Latino, 30's, is slumped over his drink, mumbling to himself. Drunk, he eyes ANTHONY warily as he rants.

ANTHONY
(Russian accent)
Zee Americans are lazeee...!

REVEAL ANTHONY, 50ish, in silhouette one seat from Hector. Anthony leans towards Hector (as some drunks do when they talk). Anthony wears glasses and sports a goatee, baseball cap, t-shirt and denim jacket. He has a thick Russian accent:

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
Beer for my friend!

Anthony slaps Hector's back. Hector doesn't like to be touched. The Bartender rolls his eyes, he's tired of drunks and wants to go home. Anthony grabs his beer, toasting:

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
To lazee Americans...!!

Hector grabs his shot, toasts and drinks:

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
I come to country seex years ago
wit nothing. Now hav sheetrock
business. Is vonderful country if
you vork hard...

Hector has Old English Script tattoos running down both arms and up his neck. A serious Banger.

HECTOR
I ain't busting my ass running no
Mexican Diesel. No bullshit
"Manuel" labor. Gotta work the
hustle.

ANTHONY

Nothing in life is eezy. You work hard,...and then...you die.

Anthony chuckles, coughs and slurps his glass of beer.

HECTOR

When I want somethin' I take it!
More time for the chicas.

ANTHONY

I loves za vomen! Za vashe
zdorovie!

HECTOR

To pussy!

Hector toasts. Anthony finishes his beer. He gestures for two more. The Bartender pours two beers. Anthony shows Hector a photo of a naked WOMAN on his phone. She is barely eighteen.

ANTHONY

She Beautiful, eh...?

HECTOR

Shit, she fine.

*

Anthony winks. He pulls out a cigarette and attempts to light it with a lighter. The Bartender has a conniption fit:

BARTENDER

Hey! Hey!! Take it outside, buddy!!

ANTHONY

Take it outside?!..In Russia you
smoke vherever you vant. You vanna
come make me go outside?!

The Fat Bartender moves at Anthony. Hector laughs, pulling Anthony out:

HECTOR

C'mon, tough guy. I need a smoke.

Anthony follows Hector and exits to the back alley.

EXT. ALLEY, THE ISLANDER - NIGHT

Dark except for a dim overhanging light. Hector and Anthony light their cigs and exhale with relief. Anthony shivers:

ANTHONY

Es cold...

*

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
You hav girlfriend?

Hector nods.

*

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
Yes, but not like these one.

*

*

HECTOR
I like 'em younger?

ANTHONY
Younger? She eighteen.

HECTOR
I can hook you up with real young
ones, just say the word.

Anthony lets the drunk Hector talk:

HECTOR (CONT'D)
You got the money, you tell me how
young you wanna' go.

ANTHONY
Is true?

HECTOR
Younger you go, more it costs. Know
what I'm saying pops?

*

*

Hector laughs. Anthony opens his jacket, and slides out a Glock. In a flash, Anthony grabs Hector by the throat with one hand, and has the Glock against his forehead.

ANTHONY
(perfect English)
This is for Mr. Williams daughter.

Suddenly, a car door opens in the alley. The light goes on. A MAN and WOMAN were making out.

Anthony instinctively pulls his gun away, and turns to the noise. Hector elbows Anthony in the face and he drops the gun as Hector flees down the alley. Fat Bartender exits with trash again delaying Anthony's pursuit.

Anthony picks up his gun. Hector dodges behind a dumpster. Anthony fires, the shot missing. Hector continues, running against the building. Anthony can't get a shot. He pursues.

Hector reaches behind him, drawing a gun. He continues to run, turning back, firing at Anthony. Anthony is faster. He is catching up. Hector jumps on a dumpster, and struggles to pull himself over a chain link fence.

Anthony hops on the dumpster and jumps over the chain link fence. Hector fires at him. Dogs bark. PEOPLE yell. Hector runs between buildings, knocking down trash cans. Anthony can't get a shot. Anthony hurries over the obstacles. *

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Hector runs up the stairs of an apartment building and hides in an alcove. Anthony follows him but runs past him to the top of building. *

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

Hector exits to the street, sneaking down the dark alley. *

EXT. ROOFTOP, APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Seeing he has been tricked by Hector, Anthony runs across the rooftops leaping to an adjacent building landing awkwardly and dropping his Glock to the street below. *

Standing at the roof edge he spies a large debris box full of trash where Hector is catching his breath. *

ANTHONY

Shit...

Anthony leaps three stories to the debris box below. CRASH. A beat. Hector runs up. Anthony suddenly steps in front of the panting Hector, knocking the gun from Hector's hands. *

HECTOR

...Don't kill me man!

ANTHONY

I don't kill people, only animals.

With that Anthony grabs a eight foot piece of Romex wire, whips it at Hector's neck lassoing the child molester like a steer. Hector's feet dangle in the air as Anthony bends him backwards snuffing the life from his purple face.

EXT. FURTHER DOWN THE ALLEY - MINUTES LATER - NIGHT

Anthony hurries down another alley. As he walks, Anthony removes his glasses, hat, jacket and goatee. He throws the costume and the wallet into a dumpster. Anthony stops under a street lamp. He lights another cigarette.

This is ANTHONY WARD, professional killer. He is in shape,
and on his game, but past his physical prime.

*
*

EXT. CITY STREETS - LATER - NIGHT

Anthony takes out another cellphone, not the cheap phone he
showed Hector. This cellphone is hi-tech. Anthony calls.

ANTHONY
(In Russian)
It's done.

*

SERGEI (O.S.)
Excellent, Anton. Wednesday.

Sergei hangs up. Anthony enters a Black Dodge Challenger, the
engine fires with a growl and creeps off into the cold night.

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD - LATER - NIGHT

Anthony drives into an upper middle class neighborhood.

EXT. ANTHONY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Anthony pulls into the driveway of a ranch-style home.

INT. ANTHONY'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Anthony gets out of the shower. We SEE the Hammer and Sickle
tattooed on his left chest along with other ink from his past
in the USSR. Anthony dries off. He has a photo taped on his
mirror. It is of the beach in the Bahamas.

*
*

INT. LIVING ROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Anthony sips a vodka rocks. Blues music on the stereo.
Anthony turns on the TV. The Laker game is ending.

ANNOUNCER (TV)
And the Lakers lose this one badly,
out scored by the Knicks 125 to 93.

ANTHONY
Fuck...

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Smoke billows from the kitchen as the Smoke Alarm sounds.
Anthony hurries to find his scrambled eggs burning. His cell
phone rings. Anthony picks up the phone:

ANTHONY
(into phone)
Yeah, I know. Yeah, I'll have it...

Anthony hangs up, fanning the smoke away.

INT. LIVING ROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE

Anthony eats his burned eggs and drinks a tall vodka with the TV flickering across his face.

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Two large RUSSIAN THUGS load something unseen into the trunk of a large sedan and slam the trunk closed.

EXT. ANTHONY'S HOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

A WOMAN and her DAUGHTER walk up Anthony's walkway.

INT. GARAGE, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - DAY

Anthony has a modern gym in his garage. He does pull ups, bar dips, hops off to hit the heavy bag. The doorbell rings.

INT. LIVING ROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - DAY

The doorbell rings. Anthony opens the door to REVEAL APRIL CHAN, 40, attractive, with a pleading look. JUNE, 8, looks bored standing next to her.

APRIL

I'm April you next door neighbor...

ANTHONY

Oh yeah. Everything ok?

*

APRIL

Sorry, I know we hardly know each other, but I have a HUGE favor to ask. There's a bomb threat at the hospital and I'm part of the crisis team, the sitter's not answering and my sister can't get here until five o'clock and...could you watch my daughter for three to four hours? I can't believe I'm doing this...

JUNE

Yeah, mom he could be a nut job or a perv.

APRIL

June, he's our neighbor!

ANTHONY

I don't really have any experience
at...

APRIL

-you won't have to do anything.
She has homework. I'll pay you...

April extends her arm gingerly with her business card.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Please?

ANTHONY

Ah, okay...you don't need to pay
me.

April walks backwards down the driveway.

APRIL

Thank you soooo much. Three to
four hours...

Anthony and June turn to gauge each other. *

INT. LIVING ROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE

In darkened room the two sit across from each other.

JUNE

You don't have to watch, "watch"
me. *

Long awkward silence fills the room as June's small frame is
swallowed by the overstuffed sofa.

ANTHONY

Do you want some eggs?

JUNE

No, thanks.
(beat)
It's really dark in here. *

More silence.

JUNE (CONT'D)

Can we go outside?

ANTHONY

Uh...I guess so... *

EXT. BACKYARD, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - DAY

Anthony follows June out to the pool in the plush backyard.

JUNE

Can we go swimming?

ANTHONY

No...water's too cold.

JUNE

Can we play hide and seek?

Anthony agrees reluctantly. *

ANTHONY *

Ahhh...Okay.

Anthony takes off to hide. June starts counting. Anthony hides in the bushes. He hides very well. Anthony gets a call, looks, it's Sergei. Anthony answers: *

ANTHONY (CONT'D)

Yeah?

SERGEI (O.S.)

Anton. Urgent. Meet me Monday. Pay is double.

The click of a call ended abruptly.

JUNE (O.S.)

TAG! You're it!

Anthony is shocked back to reality as June tags him.

JUNE (CONT'D)

I heard your phone! You're not very good at this game...

ANTHONY

Awww, you got me...but you woke the tickle monster! Arrrrgh!

Anthony chases June. She screams in delight.

EXT. BACKYARD, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - LATER - DAY

Anthony stands at the pool edge, lighting a cigarette. He stares at the sunset. Suddenly, Anthony is pushed into the pool. PULL BACK to reveal a laughing June. Anthony surfaces:

ANTHONY

That wasn't very nice.

JUNE

Cigarettes will KILL YOU! I'm
trying to save you.

ANTHONY

Maybe I don't want to be saved.

JUNE

My Mom would say that's a "bad
attitude".

ANTHONY

And she would be a smart woman.

Anthony climbs out, shaking off the water.

EXT. RIVERBANK - DAY

Anthony sits on a rock casting into the river.

EXT. RIVERBANK UPSTREAM - DAY

A six year old BOY jumps from rock to rock trying to keep up
with 12 year old BROTHER, slips from the rocks and is caught
in the rapid current of the river. MOTHER sees this and
starts screaming for help.

EXT. RIVERBANK - DAY

Anthony hears the cries for help, sees the boy struggling and
quickly removes shoes, cap and shirt and dives into the
water. Swimming hard to catch the boy 100 feet downstream he
catches him and holds him tight.

ANTHONY

Hang on.

The roar of rapids ahead drowns out any response from the boy
as they plunge over the falls, dropping 15 feet into the pool
below before entering more rapids. Finally the water calms
and Anthony is able to sidestroke to the riverbank, where a
group awaits. Several people film with their cell phones as
Anthony carries the boy ashore.

EXT. RIVER BANK DOWNSTREAM - DAY

ANTHONY

You ok?

BOY

(coughing)
I'm cold.

*
*
*
*
*

*

*

ANTHONY
(to bystander)
Do you have any blankets?

*
*

With that Anthony slips through the growing crowd.

INT. KITCHEN, CORELLI'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

HEATHER THOMAS, attractive, mid 40s, gives orders to her
KITCHEN STAFF.

HEATHER
Jorge, if the sauce is watery, it's
La Migra Time.

*
*

In b.g., the TV is on the local news. Show photo of child
saved.

KENDRA (TV)
One boy is lucky and one family
even happier this evening. Today
on the Kern River this young boy
fell in and was quickly swept
downstream until a good samaritan
dove in and held him above water
even after they fell over the
rapids. We have some footage caught
by cellphone.

Heather turns to watch the TV. From a distance we see
Anthony and Boy cascading over rapids. Heather watches in
rapid attention as the rescuer carries the boy to shore and
comes into view. The TV footage freezing on Anthony's face.

KENDRA (TV) (CONT'D)
The mysterious good samaritan left
the scene without a single word.
If anybody knows this man please
contact our station as the family
would like to give him more than a
thank you.

INT. KITCHEN, CORELLI'S RESTAURANT

HEATHER
Tony?

INT. ANTHONY'S LIVING ROOM

Anthony flips the channel. The Lakers are playing. They are
losing by 10 points.

ANNOUNCER (TV)

Three,...two, one,...game over, And
the Lakers lose by double digits...

Anthony head flops back on to sofa.

EXT. BARN USSR 45 YEARS AGO - NIGHT

Three farm hands are tearing at the clothes of LUDMERA, 15 as young Anthony 14, enters the barn. He tries to fight all of them but is quickly subdued and has to watch in horror as his sister is raped repeatedly.

INT. ANTHONY'S LIVING ROOM

Anthony wakes sudden from the nightmare as he sweats on the sofa, sits and takes another gulp of vodka.

EXT. PARK - LATER - THE NEXT DAY

Anthony parks his Challenger. SERGEI, 60ish, sits on a bench, reading a Russian newspaper. Anthony sits next to him. There is MUSCLE on another bench watching Anthony.

SERGEI

Getting sloppy in your old age?

Sergei shows Anthony a police sketch of Anthony from outside the bar. Anthony shrugs:

ANTHONY

Doesn't look like me.

SERGEI

Chased the target down an alley.
jumped off a rooftop?

ANTHONY

A couple was in the alley. You want
witnesses?

*
*

SERGEI

A young Anton wouldn't have made
that mistake.

KIDS run by, playing. The discussion stops, then:

SERGEI (CONT'D)

...but, Gorya was happy with the
result. It got done. Payment.

Sergei hands Anthony a box of Pampers. Anthony gives Sergei a look. Sergei shows Anthony a screen capture of Anthony on TV at the Riverbank.

SERGEI (CONT'D)
Publicity in your job, is not
desired. What were you doing there?

*
*

ANTHONY
I went away to relax with some
fishing.

SERGEI
And?

ANTHONY
And this kid floated by.

*

SERGEI
It's not your business. Don't be
hero again, understand me?

*

More awkwardness as they sit silently.

SERGEI (CONT'D)
You've got mail.

Anthony gets his phone, opens email, SEES WILLIAM GLADSTONE:

SERGEI (CONT'D)
High priority scum bag. Rush job.
Ordered a hit on a cop. Feel free
to be creative. Pays one hundred.

ANTHONY
Cops can't take care of it?

SERGEI
No, but don't worry, they won't
investigate with much enthusiasm.

Sergei shows his phone to Anthony. It is a picture of RACHEL
KENO, mid 30s, beautiful, rich. Anthony eyes the photo, then:

SERGEI (CONT'D)
Misha's ex-wife. Gorya's paying big
bucks. We figure if she gets taken
out, the heat's gonna be on Misha.
The ex-husband always suspect.

ANTHONY
I don't do women.

SERGEI
I forgot, you only hit scumbags,
and child molesters.

*
*

ANTHONY

Why's Gorya getting into Misha's
business?

SERGEI

Misha's crowding Gorya.

ANTHONY

Not enough drugs and prostitution
to go around in this city?

SERGEI

The "Beaners" and "Brothas" are
expanding too. Gorya feels a
squeeze from all directions.

*

*

ANTHONY

Wants to be the only Russian Tzar
in town?

Sergei nods. More silence as Anthony stares off:

ANTHONY (CONT'D)

Ever want a wife and kids?

*

Sergei's belly shakes as he chuckles.

SERGEI

I get a woman whenever I want. Any
color of the rainbow! Why do you
want a headache like that?

Anthony politely laughs.

ANTHONY

(In Russian)

I'm tired of this shit.

*

Sergei starts talking in Russian. Anthony speaks in Russian.

SERGEI

(Russian)

Is your memory fading? Who helped
you out of the country? Who got
your father's ass out of the Gulag?

The conversation goes back to English:

ANTHONY

Things change, things end.

SERGEI

Go before you make me mad.

Anthony nods slowly and stands.

SERGEI (CONT'D)

Move on the guy that ordered the
cop hit. A hundred is some serious
money. Enough to pay your bookie.
Maybe you stop betting and losing,
you can go to this island you talk
about so much.

*

Sergei laughs. Anthony walks away.

ANTHONY

Fuck you.

EXT. ANTHONY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A black town car pulls up in front of Anthony's house.
Anthony walks out of his front door, carrying the box of
Pampers. The window rolls down in the back seat. PAULIE
BLACK, mid 50s, sits in the backseat with a BODYGUARD.

PAULIE

Keep betting on those Lakers. You
just paid my car note.

Anthony hands over the box of Pampers. Paulie stares at him.

PAULIE (CONT'D)

What the fuck is this?

ANTHONY

It's all there. Everything.

Paulie hands it to his Bodyguard:

PAULIE

Better be.
(smiles at Tony)
The Lakers are playing tomorrow.
I'll be expecting your call.

The window rolls up. The Town Car drives away.

EXT. DESSERT ROAD - NIGHT

RUSSIAN THUGS continue driving on lonely desert road. Close
up on trunk.

EXT. LUXURY HOTEL, LOS ANGELES - NIGHT

An ELEVATOR REPAIRMAN enters the hotel.

INT. 10TH FLOOR, LUXURY HOTEL - NIGHT

STEVEN, early 20s, handsome, kneels by a large toolbox. He wears the overalls of an elevator repair company. Steven searches in the toolbox, getting frustrated. A COUPLE exit their room and press the down button.

STEVEN

It's broken!!

MAN #1

How are we supposed to get down to the lobby?

Steven stands, getting in Man #1's face. He is intimidating:

STEVEN

Take the stairs, jump out the window, I don't fuckin' care!

*
*

Man #1 takes his Girl and hurries down the hall. Steven, even more panicked now, searches the toolbox. Then, he finds a gun with a silencer in the toolbox. Steven sighs.

The elevator button dings. The elevator door opens. JOHNNY EDWARDS, in suit and tie, makes out with RACHEL KENO.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Hey Rachel. Misha says hello.

Steven raises his gun and fires three times into Rachel's chest. She drops, dead. Johnny grimaces, waiting for his turn. Steven runs down the hall, entering the stairway.

EXT. BEVERLY HILLS HOME - NIGHT

A late model Mercedes parks in the driveway. A DRIVER runs over and opens the passenger door for Sergei.

INT. LIVING ROOM, GORYA HOME - NIGHT

GORYA, early 70s, fat and comfortable sits on a couch and watches baseball on a large screen TV. MUSCLEMAN #1 stands as Sergei enters. Muscleman #1 mixes drinks. Sergei sits next to Gorya. Muscleman #1 puts the drinks down.

SERGEI

Baseball? You know nothing about this American sport.

GORYA

I am betting on team in blue. Young pitcher over old pitcher.

*

SERGEI

In the late game your guy won't be able to take the mental pressure.

GORYA

The young kid has it all. Brains, brawn, good genetics. A winner!

SERGEI

Three hundred the old guy wins?

Sergei throws down three hundred dollars. Gorya matches.

GORYA

Serg, even if I lose, I don't "lose".

SERGEI

I know.

GORYA

I win no matter what. You of all people should know that.

Gorya laughs.

GORYA (CONT'D)

You are like a little loser brother I never had.

Gorya shows Sergei two pieces of paper. One is a police sketch of Steven. His face is familiar. Another police sketch of Anthony. It is from a distance. His denim jacket and body posture is correct. His face is indistinguishable.

SERGEI

From our police sources?

Gorya nods.

*

GORYA

If either talks, you will go for swimming lessons. We clear?

*

*

Sergei is visibly shaken.

SERGEI

They won't talk.

GORYA

Time to tighten the screws.

Gorya takes a drink as if thinking everything over, then:

GORYA (CONT'D)

Steven is lazy and brash. He will eventually get caught and talk... Anton is old and his heart not in it. He may talk too.

*
*

SERGEI

Anton wants out. He is hinting at quitting.

GORYA

(shouts)

I have retirement plan? Nobody quits Gorya!

*
*
*

Gorya shows Sergei a photo of William Gladstone:

GORYA (CONT'D)

This is the cop from Organized Crime who's sniffing me out... Gladstone is bright but dirty.

SERGEI

I already put Anton on him.

GORYA

If he fails, you will feel his pain. Make sure its taken care of.

Sergei nods in silence.

INT. LIVING ROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

Anthony studies his email about WILLIAM GLADSTONE, 59.

EXT. OUTSIDE CHAMP'S DINER - DAY

Anthony waits at the bus stop with a magazine. He spies Gladstone exiting the diner. Anthony checks his watch. It's exactly 1pm. Gladstone enters a blue Sedan.

INT. GARAGE WORKSHOP, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - ANOTHER DAY

Anthony draws up Cyanide from a vial into syringe.

He tries a briefcase injector mechanism before carefully placing the cyanide syringe inside the triggered device.

EXT. PARKING LOT, CHAMP'S DINER - ANOTHER DAY

Gladstone exits the diner. FIND Anthony trailing in Euro-style Suit, talking on cell in an Italian accent.

ANTHONY

It es all about money with you. We meet, have lunch, do some business.

With a click, FIND the needle projecting out of briefcase.

As Gladstone moves to his blue Sedan, Anthony "accidently" bumps his leg with the briefcase.

GLADSTONE

Oww! Hey..!!

Mr. Gladstone glares at Anthony.

ANTHONY

I'm a so sorry.

Anthony enters the diner.

INT. BLUE SEDAN - DAY

Gladstone looks confused. He starts to sweat and panic. Gladstone's face goes pale. He slumps in his seat, dead.

INT. BOWLING ALLEY - ANOTHER DAY

Anthony instructs June and other KIDS on bowling technique.

ANTHONY

It's not that difficult. You put your fingers in the holes and then roll the ball down the lane.

At the other end of the bowling alley, HEATHER, 50s, her beauty winning the battle with Father Time, spies the sweet scene of Anthony with the girls. Heather's loud bowling friend, MONIQUE, 50s, gutters her ball.

*
*
*
*

MONIQUE

I-suck-at-this-game!!!

*

Heather continues staring at Anthony slowly realizing she knows him. Anthony, hearing Monique's loud laugh and declarations looks their way. He does a double take seeing Heather. Anthony and Heather can't take their eyes off each other. Anthony hands the ball to June.

*
*
*
*
*

ANTHONY

You guys are on your own. Don't kill anyone.

*

Anthony walks towards Heather across all the bowling lanes.

MONIQUE
(to Anthony)
Tell me how do you two...?

*

HEATHER
Well...

*

*

ANTHONY
Can I buy you two a cup of coffee?

*

Anthony hikes his thumb toward the alley coffee shop.

HEATHER
Ah...I don't know...

ANTHONY
Heather, It's been 25 years...

Monique nodding furiously.

INT. ALLEY COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Monique and Heather share one side of the booth while Anthony
sits opposing, with June and friends playing in b.g. booth.

*

MONIQUE
So, then I asked him if he had a
job, and he says he's a big time
movie producer. Pleez you don't
own a damm car! Tony dating in LA
sucks big time. Shit, I gotta go
girl, I'll see you...when I see
you, k?

*

*

HEATHER
Sure, movies or something.

MONIQUE
Anything with Idiris Elba, Bradley
Cooper or Collin Farrell. Take care
you two.

*

Anthony gives her a wave goodbye.

HEATHER
I still can't believe no kids,
marriage, nothing?

ANTHONY
The one I loved dumped me and broke
my heart-

HEATHER

Hey hey. I had a very good reason.
Are you still...?

*
*

ANTHONY

No...no I started a security
company a long time ago. Legit.

HEATHER

Really? REALLY?, really?

*

ANTHONY

Yeah, 15 employees. Enough about me
what about you? I can't believe
you never settled down and had kids
either.

*

HEATHER

Yeah, I know...just, just didn't
happen...was married briefly but
hardly.

ANTHONY

Maybe that's a sign...for...

HEATHER

Slow down. It's good to see you
and everything, but there's a lot
of road between us since then.

*

ANTHONY

True. Lots of road...

*

HEATHER

When I saw you on the news pulling
that boy out of the water jeez...I
knew it was you the second I saw
you.

ANTHONY

Maybe we could...?

*

HEATHER

I gotta run. You better get back to
your kids.

June and the friends are shooting spit-wads at each other.

ANTHONY

Hey, hey, hey, come on guys let's
go.

*

June walks next to Anthony as they walk out of Bowling Alley.

JUNE

Is that your girlfriend?

ANTHONY

She was.

JUNE

My mom is prettier.

Anthony can only smile.

EXT. CORELLI'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The DRIVER opens the door for Sergei.

INT. BACK BOOTH, CORELLI'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Gorya sits alone. His THUGS are at another table. Sergei sits. Gorya hands Sergei a drink.

GORYA

Gladstone is gone. Good.

*

SERGEI

Is another cop picking up the investigation from Gladstone?

GORYA

Not yet but I need to be proactive. We've been sloppy with our boys, calling attention to their work. It's time for cutbacks. We only need one of them.

*

*

Sergei didn't expect this. He takes a beat, then:

SERGEI

Anthony is creative, intelligent, he's never been investigated, ever.

GORYA

...and he knows too much about us.

SERGEI

Steven is a punk. He cares only about money, girls and his dick, he has no loyalty. He's American. He will turn traitor in one heartbeat.

GORYA

He is young and hungry. He can be trained to be creative and to work smart like Anton used to.

Gorya pulls out a folder.

GORYA (CONT'D)

I have a plan to chase Misha from town. He is cutting hard into our profits in drugs and women. Where Misha makes his big money is in child porn. It's beyond disgusting. These men should burn alive for what they do. In addition some kids are flown by private jet to very wealthy "clients" around the world and never seen again.

Gorya opens up the folder. There are five photos of Louis De Souza, Jimmy Watkins, Miles Dooley, Kim Soon and Bobby Mitchell. Sergei flips through the photos:

GORYA (CONT'D)

These are his top clients. The kids are abducted, used in films, and then their bodies are disposed of in the desert. It's big money. Misha's a low-life piece of shit. We kill his clients, ruin Misha. In a month, he's out of business and running away...

*

*

SERGEI

Put Anton on it.

GORYA

We put them both on it. Tell them five million when all five are dead.

*

SERGEI

Who gets the bonus?

GORYA

The Survivor.

*

SERGEI

They go after each other?

GORYA

Are you deaf or dumb? I said we only need one. Let the strongest survive. End of story.

*

Sergei nods.

EXT. STEVEN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

FIND Steven's loft apartment in Venice Beach.

INT. BEDROOM, STEVEN'S APARTMENT - MONTAGE - NIGHT

Minimalist furniture in an old art deco style apartment. Hardwood floors. Cool moldings. It's expensive rent. But the decor and ambience can hardly be seen because there are piles of dirty laundry, empty pizza boxes, beer cans and bottles, everywhere. It looks like a garbage dump invaded this space. *

Steven and AMBER, mid 20s, beautiful, have sex. Steven is on top of her. Amber's phone vibrates. She picks up her phone and sees a call from "G." Amber turns her phone off. The sex is done. Steven and Amber lay on their backs.

AMBER

Regular electricity how does it work?

Steven laughs at Amber because she's cute. He kisses her.

STEVEN

Regular electricity? I guess you mean AC, alternating current. It's generated at the power plants, and then sent over high voltage lines, sixteen K usually and then stepped down at the substation before it comes to...

AMBER

So, it's just THERE, waiting for me to flip the switch?

STEVEN

Yes baby, it's just there.

Amber flicks the light switch on and off. Steven continues to laugh. He rises and puts on a Power Rangers bathrobe.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

I'm gonna make us a snack...

INT. KITCHEN, STEVEN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Steven fixes two snacks. Amber, in bra and panties, follows him to the refrigerator. Steven lets her lick his finger.

AMBER

That's good.

STEVEN

Anything for my baby.

AMBER

You promised me a long vacation to
St. Barts.

STEVEN

Yeah, I'd like to disappear from
here. Maybe year, year and a half. *

AMBER

When?

STEVEN

I'm working on the bankroll, babe. *
To live large in St. Barts, gotta *
be flush. *

AMBER

So tell my uncle you want more
work. He'll hook you up.

STEVEN

Sure...but it's not that easy.

Amber pulls Steven to her, kissing him deeply.

AMBER

I want to go to St. Barts...!!

STEVEN

Okay, okay, I'll make it happen.

EXT. ANTHONY'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

With the drapes closed it's dark with some sunshine streaming
through the gaps. June sits on the floor using the coffee
table to do her homework.

JUNE

Are you gay?

Anthony from the kitchen. *

ANTHONY

What?!

He enters with a plate of scrambled eggs setting them down in *
front of June.

ANTHONY (CONT'D)

What did you say?

JUNE
Eggs again?
(beat)
Are you gay?

ANTHONY
No, just picky I guess. *

JUNE
Tried online dating?

ANTHONY
How do you know about that stuff?

JUNE
Mom uses it. She says most of the
guys are real losers so you would
stand out, since you're so cool.
You should ask my mom out.

ANTHONY
No, you mom needs a Prince
Charming. I'm not that guy. Soon,
I'm going to retire and move to the
Bahamas. Just need to work a
little more.

JUNE
Really?

ANTHONY
Yeah, sorry. You mom is beautiful
but I still have feelings for
somebody.

JUNE
The lady at the bowling alley? *

Anthony nods. *

JUNE (CONT'D) *
Why aren't you married to her then? *

ANTHONY
She dumped me.

JUNE
See, my mom would never do that!

INT. LIVING ROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - LATER - NIGHT

Anthony rummages through some old boxes and finds a small photo of Heather and places it next to his computer. Anthony dials. Heather's message picks up:

HEATHER (O.S.)

Hi, this is Heather. I'm away from my phone. Please leave a message.

Anthony stands, paces, nervously leaves a message:

ANTHONY

Hey, just calling to say hi...

The phone beeps, cutting off Anthony's message. He hangs up, frustrated. Then, Anthony gets a text. He excitedly checks his phone. It's from SERGEI:

SERGEI (TEXT)

Tomorrow. Park. Same time.

Anthony throws his phone down on the sofa.

INT. LIVING ROOM, HEATHER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Art on the walls. Cool furniture and decor. Heather drinks wine with MONIQUE, mid 40s. They listen to Anthony's message:

ANTHONY (O.S.)

Hey, just called to say hi...

MONIQUE

Your past is calling... How long ago were you two...knocking boots? *

HEATHER

Not long, and it was twenty five years...It was more of a fling. *

MONIQUE

You must have rocked his world in the mullet and leg warmer days. *

HEATHER

We had our moments, but he lied to me and that's where I draw the line.

MONIQUE

Something bad?

HEATHER
(nodding)

I told him I couldn't see him anymore. He respected that and kept his distance...It helped that I got that job in New York.

*
*

MONIQUE

Now both y'all in the same city 25 years later...sounds like fate to me...

*
*
*
*

HEATHER

It can't work. He's still the same underneath it all.

*

MONIQUE

And you know that...how?

HEATHER

Because I know he is, who he was.

*

A long pause. Heather stands. Behind books in the bookcase is a framed photo. She shows it to Monique. From 25 years ago. It is a young ANTHONY sitting at a table with Sergei and Gorya. Heather takes the photo from Monique.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

He couldn't cook anything but scrambled eggs. He has this sweet side which sucks me in. Still, that's not who he is, and I can't get involved, not now.

*

MONIQUE

Let me guess, he cheated on you? Girrl all men are dogs but good dogs are hard to find. Shit I'm still meeting Rottweilers with Rabies, while you got a Golden Retriever that wandered a little. No big deal.

*
*
*
*
*
*
*

HEATHER

I can't. It's too complicated.

*
*

INT. BEDROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

Anthony wakes up. He opens his laptop, opens a news website, SEES the Headline: **COP FOUND DEAD IN CAR**, and then a photo of William Gladstone. Smaller headline: **Thirty year Career.**

ANTHONY

Fuck...

*

EXT. PARK - THE NEXT DAY

Anthony exits his Challenger. Sergei sits at the park bench. Sergei's Driver is in b.g. Anthony sits. He shows Sergei the news headline and Gladstone's photo on his phone:

ANTHONY

He was a cop. You lied to me. *

SERGEI

He ordered a hit on a cop who owed him money. And he snitched on cops too. They won't investigate too hard. *

ANTHONY

When did we start killing cops?

SERGEI

When Gorya tells us too!!...This Gladstone was getting too close which is bad news for me, for you, and Gorya.

Sergei gestures to two buckets of KFC under the bench.

SERGEI (CONT'D)

Payment.

ANTHONY

This is bullshit...

SERGEI

Is it? I know what kind of money you owe your bookie. If you wanna play, you gotta pay, right Anton? *

Sergei opens a file. Anthony sees the photos of Louis De Souza, Jimmy Watkins, Miles Dooley, Kim Soon, Bobby Mitchell.

SERGEI (CONT'D)

Misha's child trafficking clients. Real scum of the earth. I wish I could kill them myself. They abduct kids, film them and then...dispose of them. Makes Misha lots of money. Gorya needs all five done in a month. No questions asked. *

Anthony picks up the KFC buckets. He puts them on his lap. Anthony is debating if he should tell Sergei this, then:

ANTHONY

I can't do this anymore.

SERGEI
Scared about this cop bullshit?

ANTHONY
Don't like being lied to. *

SERGEI
A little late for regrets.

ANTHONY
I've been thinking about this for a
long time. I want out. *

Sergei leans back:

SERGEI
Your father was good agent. When
purge came, he was set up for zat
murder in Moscow, with no friends
in high places. We knew he would be
executed in Siberia. Now,WHO had
his transport train hijacked? *

Anthony lowers his head. He knows he is beaten.

ANTHONY
You did.

SERGEI
WHO gave your your mother and
father new identities in Sweden to
live out their lives? *

ANTHONY
You did, Sergei.

SERGEI
How old is he now?

ANTHONY
Eighty five.

SERGEI
Enjoying his summerhouse. Drinking
and fishing. Very happy, no?

Anthony nods. He is indebted. Sergei takes the file.

SERGEI (CONT'D)
Take out these five men. When you
finish, you get 5 million bucks.
Ticket to new life. *

ANTHONY
Five and I'm done?

SERGEI
With a five million cash. That's
lots of gambling money, heh...heh. *

ANTHONY
Done with that.

Sergei laughs.

SERGEI
Does Zebra change stripes? *

Anthony picks up the KFC buckets.

ANTHONY
I have your word? Five and done?

SERGEI
Who saved your neck from the KGB?
Anton you are like a son to me. I
give you my word... *

Anthony nods. He walks towards his car.

SERGEI (CONT'D)
You're velcome...!!! *

EXT. OUTDOOR CAFE - DAY

Gorya sits alone, drinking coffee, eating pastries. THUGS are at nearby tables. Steven drives a motorized razor scooter up the sidewalk, dodging annoyed PEDESTRIANS. Steven jumps into the seat next to Gorya. Gorya is embarrassed.

GORYA
Must you always act like child?

Steven mocks Gorya:

STEVEN
Must you act like...

Gorya reaches over and grabs Steven by the earlobe, pulling it down. Steve grimaces. Gorya pinches it harder. *

Steven nods. Gorya lets go of Steven's ear. *

GORYA

I saved you from jail. You would be getting raped by some fat Mexican right now. You owe me! So shut the fuck up and listen!

STEVEN

Owww, ok, ok just chill out!

Gorya glares at Steven. Steven shuts up. Gorya hands a file to Steven. He sees the five photos of Louis De Souza, Jimmy Watkins, Miles Dooley, Kim Soon and Bobby Mitchell.

GORYA

Child trafficking perverts. Hit these five in thirty days, and you make five million.

*
*
*

STEVEN

Five mill? You serious?

*

Steven whistles. He hands the file back to Gorya.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Deal. Then what?

GORYA

Then you take my niece to St. Barts. Go on vacation. Whatever.

*

Steven nods, stands:

STEVEN

We done here?

GORYA

Be cleaner...and pull up your pants!

*

Steven rides off flipping him the bird.

EXT. DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - ANOTHER NIGHT

Anthony's Challenger rumbles downtown.

INT. ANTHONY'S CAR - NIGHT

Anthony parks down the street from an eight-story apartment building. Anthony opens his phone. He looks at the photo of Luis De Sousa. Anthony exits his car.

EXT. DOWNTOWN ALLEY, APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Anthony creeps down an alley dressed in Carhart pants, hoodie *
and dirty work boots.

EXT. ROOFTOP, APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Anthony ties nylon webbing to rooftop vents, tightening his *
harness and clipping into the rappelling line. Anthony throws
the line over the side and it falls silently into the night.

He stands on the edge of the eight story building, then drops
from view.

EXT. EXTERIOR WALL, APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Sliding four stories down Anthony locks off next to a window.
He draws his Glock with a silencer attached. Anthony looks
through the open window and SEES:

INT. DE SOUSA'S APARTMENT, APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

LUIS DE SOUSA, mid 30s, sitting on his couch, eating
McDonalds, watching a football game.

Suddenly, Steven busts through the front door, splintering
the door frame. Luis De Sousa turns:

DE SOUSA
Hey hey hey...?!

Steven has a Glock drawn. He fires. De Sousa is hit. He drops
in a puddle of blood, drawing a gun. De Sousa fires at him.
Steven dives aside. Luis sprints to the kitchen. Steven slips
on blood, following:

DE SOUSA (CONT'D)
You a dead mothafucker!!

Steven fires wildly, sheetrock dust and wood chips fill the
air with debris. De Sousa turns, aims, fires. Steven dives
and fires blindly.

CU of BULLET from Steven's gun as it flies out the window:

EXT. EXTERIOR WALL, APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

The bullet strikes the rope nearly severing Anthony's rappel
line, leaving just a thread between him and concrete forty
feet below.

ANTHONY
Shit...!

Anthony spots a fire escape fifteen feet to his left. He kicks off the wall, swings, building momentum in an arc. With each swing Anthony gets closer to safety, as the rope continues to unravel.

Then, the line snaps. Anthony falls, grabbing the iron railing of the fire escape at the last second. Anthony climbs up to the fire escape platform, panting.

Anthony looks into the hallway. He SEES: Steven fleeing from the apartment, and entering the far stairwell.

INT. HALLWAY, APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Anthony walks towards De Sousa's apartment. Steven's bloody footprints lead to the stairwell.

INT. DE SOUSA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Anthony opens the door. De Sousa is dead. The scene is a bloody mess. He sees the child porn playing on the computer and shuts it off with disgust. Anthony snaps a photo with his phone of the dead De Sousa.

INT. STEVEN'S APARTMENT - LATER - NIGHT

Steven enters, slamming the door shut. He has blood splatter on his face. He quickly hides his two guns in a brown paper bag and stuffs the bag into the back of his freezer.

Someone knocks on the door. Steven jumps:

STEVEN

Who is it?!

Steven splashes water from the faucet onto his face and wipes it dry with a dish rag.

MARK (O.S.)

It's me asshole! Open up!

STEVEN

Hang on a sec.

Steven undoes the bolt lock and opens the door. MARK AKERS, 24, stands in the hallway, holding a six-pack of Rockstar.

MARK

Hey, where the fuck you been homo?

*

STEVEN

Overtime.

MARK

Whatever. Ready to get your ass
shot up muthafucka? Battlefield
four, it's on!

Steven grabs two Rockstars and gets vodka from the freezer.

STEVEN

Rockstar vodka?

MARK

Does the Pope shit in the woods?

INT. LIVING ROOM, STEVEN'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

Steven and Mark, with game controllers and drinks, play
BATTLEFIELD FOUR on a 52" TV.

MARK

Where did you nab this bitchin' TV? *

STEVEN

Best Buy is working me hard, bro. *

MARK

Man I gotta getta job.

STEVEN

What and move out of your parents
place? *

MARK

Fuck you.

Steven puts his feet up on coffee table. Mark notices his
boots covered in blood.

MARK (CONT'D)

Dude, you working at Best Buy or a
butcher shop?

STEVEN

Ah...nah...just got a bloody nose.

MARK

From picking it too much?

STEVEN

Yeah, you want some?

Steven gets him in a headlock.

MARK

Get off you faggot!

Steven resets the game:

STEVEN
C'mon, let's do this.

Steven's phone rings. He hurriedly grabs it, then sees MOM on the screen. Steven answers, disappointed:

STEVEN (CONT'D)
Hey, it's late, you okay? I've been busy. Sorry, yeah, I know I shoulda' called. Ok. I promise, yeah, bye.

*
*

Steven hangs up. Mark makes "kissy" faces:

MARK
Ohh hi mommy, am I up too late?
Sorry mommy, I'll be a good boy.

Steven grabs Mark by the throat.

STEVEN
Fuck you! My mom is cool. I love my mom.

Mark laughs.

MARK
Sensitive much?...Man, you are working way too hard, I can't even bust your balls anymore.

INT. THE TWILIGHT BAR LOS ANGELES - NIGHT

Sergei sits in a booth with his Driver. Anthony enters the bar, and strides right for Sergei.

ANTHONY
What the hell's going on?

Sergei gestures the Driver away, signals to the BARTENDER with two fingers:

SERGEI
Stoli rocks. Sit. Relax.

Anthony sits. The Bartender brings over two drinks. Anthony downs his, gestures for another one.

ANTHONY
Who's the other hitter?

SERGEI

You're cute when you're mad.

Anthony shows Sergei the photo of dead De Sousa on his phone.

ANTHONY

Someone got to De Sousa first.

SERGEI

Good. One down. Four to go.

ANTHONY

Who did it?

SERGEI

It doesn't matter. Once the hits
are done, you will get your money.
We don't care who kills who, just
that they're dead.

*

Anthony downs his second drink.

ANTHONY

Why are you bringing someone else
in on my jobs?

SERGEI

Who said they're yours? Vee need
targets taken out. One down.

*

ANTHONY

You lie to me about a cop, then you
don't trust my work?

SERGEI

You took so long "analyzing the
situation" somebody beat you to it.

ANTHONY

I'm CAREFUL! That's why you use me
remember? This punk is sloppy! The
cops will be all over his shit. HE
will get you busted!

*

SERGEI

He's Gorya's boy.

*

ANTHONY

Yeah well, he almost got me killed
and he left a dirty crime scene.
He's gonna be a big problem for
Gorya! Who is he?

*

*

*

SERGEI

Don't worry about it, do your job.

Anthony stands, finally too irate to stay:

ANTHONY

He gets in my way again, I'm taking
him out. Gorya is out of control!

*
*

SERGEI

You don't have a choice, Anton. You
walk away, you will be the target.
You might be the best, but Gorya
insists on loyalty.

*

ANTHONY

Are you threatening me?

SERGEI

Me? No. We are old friends. But
Gorya will kill you. The only way
out is to finish these five.

*

Anthony thinks about this. Sergei is right. Anthony sighs:

ANTHONY

After these five you will never see
me again.

*
*

Anthony stands and exits.

CUT TO:

EXT. RUSSIAN THUGS DRIVING DESERT ROAD - NIGHT

The two thugs smoke as the camera focuses on the car trunk.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CORELLI'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Anthony enters this five star restaurant.

INT. CORELLI'S RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

Anthony sits at a table. WAITER #1 approaches:

WAITER #1

Sorry sir, we've stopped serving
for this evening.

ANTHONY

I'm a friend of the chef's. Tell her Anthony's here to see her.

Waiter #1 nods, moving into the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN, CORELLI'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Heather prepares for tomorrow. Waiter #1 interrupts:

WAITER #1

Chef, there's a man here says he's a friend of yours.

Heather looks out the kitchen into the dining room. She sees Anthony. He doesn't see her.

HEATHER

Tell him I've left for the night.

INT. CORELLI'S RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

Waiter #1 walks out to Anthony.

WAITER #1

I'm sorry, sir, she's gone for the night.

Anthony looks back towards the kitchen. There is movement as if someone was watching him. Anthony writes a note, he hands it to Waiter #1 with a \$20/bill.

ANTHONY

Make sure she gets this. Thanks.

Waiter #1 nods.

INT. KITCHEN, CORELLI'S RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

Heather reads the postcard with a photo of Eleuthera, Bahamas. Selling the business in 22 days, come with me, Tony.

INT. BEDROOM, STEVEN'S APARTMENT - LATER - NIGHT

Amber sneaks in, using the light on her phone. She turns the light to the bed. Steven is sitting up. Amber startles.

AMBER

Jeez! You psycho.

STEVEN

It's four in the morning.

Steven turns on the light. His gun sits in his lap.

AMBER

I was at Gorya's. He had a party.

STEVEN

Bullshit! Where were you?

AMBER

Gorya's. My cousin Dmitri is leaving for Moscow.

STEVEN

Liar.

Amber makes a call on her phone, then:

AMBER

Uncle! I told you he wouldn't believe me...tell him.

Amber hands the phone to Steven. He looks like she's crazy:

AMBER (CONT'D)

It's Gorya. Your boss!

Steven grabs the phone:

STEVEN

Yeah...?

GORYA (O.S.)

Why the fuck are you calling me at this hour? She was at party. Vant to call me liar?

*
*

STEVEN

No...I...

The phone is hung up. Amber comes close and grabs his hand.

AMBER

You have to trust me baby.

EXT. ALLEYWAY, DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - NIGHT

Anthony parks a Ford pick-up. Anthony, dressed in the UPS Driver's outfit, takes a package out of the bed. Anthony looks at his phone at the photo of Jimmy Watkins.

Sergei talks:

SERGEI (O.S.)

Target works on his home computer so he rarely goes out. He takes a smoke break every night at eleven PM, end of the hall, 6th floor.

EXT. DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - NIGHT

A Metro bus speeds through downtown.

INT. METRO - NIGHT

Steven sits with a skateboard, earbuds in his ears, eyeing the photo of Jimmy Watkins on his phone. Gorya speaks:

GORYA (O.S.)

Don't fuck up. He's like a vampire, he's only visible a few minutes a day at twenty three hundred hours.

EXT. LOBBY, APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Anthony, in his UPS driver uniform, carries a large flat box marked, FRAGILE ARTWORK, into the lobby. *

EXT. WATKINS' APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Steven rides up on his skateboard.

INT. HALLWAY, APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT.

Anthony stops at a doorway, knocks, opens the unlocked door.

INT. EMPTY APARTMENT - NIGHT

Anthony opens the box and removes a high powered archery bow and one arrow. He looks across the street to SEE: *

JIMMY WATKINS at the window of the hallway, smoking.

Anthony raises his bow and draws it fully. Then he SEES:

Steven entering the rear of the hallway from the stairway and slowly releases the bow tension.

ANTHONY

Shit...

INT. HALLWAY, WATKINS' APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Steven walks with swagger toward Jimmy Watkins at the window. Jimmy senses danger and walks toward Steven.

JIMMY
Need somethin' muthafucka?

STEVEN
No, I'm cool.

Steven and Jimmy pass each other in the hallway giving each other the stink eye. Jimmy walks to the far end of hallway, over eighty feet away to finish his cigarette.

INT. EMPTY APARTMENT - NIGHT

Anthony is pissed. Steven's actions have turned a difficult shot into the near impossible. Anthony now must shoot two hundred feet across the roadway, through a small window and down a hallway another eighty feet to kill Jimmy Watkins.

Anthony draws his bow, holds his breath and takes aim.

Suddenly Steven pokes his head out the window looking about, blocking Anthony's shot. Anthony holds aim on Steven:

ANTHONY
(under his breath)
Want one in the ear, asshole!

Anthony releases the bow tension, and takes a deep breath.

INT. SEEDY APT. HALLWAY - NIGHT.

With Jimmy Watkins still smoking at the end of the hallway, a LITTLE OLD LADY #1 steps out of her apartment to put her recycling next to her door. LITTLE OLD LADY #2 opens her door across the hall, and steps out. With both opposing doors open the target window has shrunken even further.

LADY #1
Winter is coming early isn't it?

LADY #2
Global warming my ass.

INT. EMPTY APARTMENT - NIGHT

Taking another long, calming breath. Anthony draws his bow. He takes steady aim, muscles straining.

INT. SEEDY APT. HALLWAY - NIGHT.

Steven's POV: Anthony is in full draw.

STEVEN
What the fuck?!

Steven draws his gun taking aim. Anthony fires. *

CU on an ARROW as it sails between the two buildings.

INT. SEEDY APT. HALLWAY - NIGHT.

The ARROW zings past the lunging Steven, screaming down the hallway, passing the two Little Old Ladies, and embeds into the chest of Jimmy Watkins. Jimmy drops, instantly dead.

The Little Old Ladies don't notice and say their good byes as they return to their apartments.

Steven looks at the dead Jimmy Watkins, then back out the window. Anthony is gone.

STEVEN

Fuck me!!!

EXT. DOWNTOWN ALLEY - LATER - NIGHT

Steven speeds on his skateboard down a dark alley. He pauses, takes out his cellphone and dials, then:

STEVEN

What the fuck? Another hitter took out Watkins with a freakin' arrow!

INT. CORELLI'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Gorya and his MUSCLE eat dinner. Gorya is on the phone:

GORYA

(chuckling)

Clever. Is he dead? *

STEVEN (O.S.)

Oh yeah...he's gone.

GORYA

I don't care who kills them. Once the hits are complete, I pay you.

STEVEN (O.S.)

Okay, that's tight...but...

EXT. DOWNTOWN ALLEY - NIGHT

STEVEN

...who's this other guy...?

Gorya hangs up. Steven is frustrated. He skates away.

INT. BEDROOM, STEVEN'S APARTMENT - LATER - NIGHT

Amber watches TV in bed, also reads her phone. Steven enters. He is flustered, pacing. Amber looks up from her phone:

AMBER
Baby, what's the matter?

STEVEN
Some fucker's moving in on my
territory!

Amber raises up on the bed, and moves to Steven, wrapping her arms around him, kissing his neck.

AMBER
You worry too much.

Steven nods. He kisses Amber back.

INT. BEDROOM, STEVEN'S APARTMENT - LATER - NIGHT

Steven and Amber make love in a noisy, uninhibited way.

AMBER
Oh gawd, oh gawd...!!

STEVEN
Ahhhhhhh...yes...

From behind the bedroom door, Anthony, in black, steps in:

ANTHONY
You really are quick with the
trigger.

Amber startled, scared, covering up. *

AMBER
Shit!

Steven rolls for his pants which lay on the floor. Anthony draws his Glock.

ANTHONY
Slow down, playboy.

AMBER
Please please, don't hurt us,
don't...I can get you money...!! *

ANTHONY
Tell Amber to calm down.

AMBER

How do you know my name?!

Anthony raises his Glock at Steven.

ANTHONY

Take charge Steven!

Steven turns to Amber:

STEVEN

Enough!! Calm down! I got this.

(to Anthony)

What the fuck do you want? Money?

ANTHONY

If I wanted money, I would've taken
the cash in the crockpot.

Steven looks like the cat with the goldfish in his mouth:

ANTHONY (CONT'D)

I want to talk. That's all.

A beat. Steven nods.

INT. LIVING ROOM, STEVEN'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

Steven wears his Power Rangers robe. Anthony runs his finger over dusty shelves, eyeing all the Xbox games everywhere. It is a pig sty. Anthony glares at the piles of dirty laundry.

ANTHONY (CONT'D)

You really are sloppy.

Steven moves towards the kitchen. He reaches for the freezer. Anthony lifts his gun:

ANTHONY (CONT'D)

Stop. You don't need your gun.

Steven's mouth drops. He is shocked by Anthony's knowledge:

STEVEN

Are you here to kill me?

ANTHONY

No, Steven. You'd be dead already
if that were the case...Sit.

Steven is resistant. Anthony cocks his gun.

ANTHONY (CONT'D)

Or would you prefer an arrow?

Now Steven has respect for Anthony. He sits:

STEVEN

That was you?...You almost killed me.

*
*

ANTHONY

But I didn't. Where's your family?

STEVEN

None of your fuckin' business!

ANTHONY

You wanna continue the tough guy act, or do you wanna talk?

Steven takes a beat. He nods, cooling down:

STEVEN

Sorry. Why do you care about my family?

ANTHONY

You know a man's family you know how and why and when he ticks.

*

STEVEN

Umm,...my mom lives in Los Feliz and dad OD'ed before I was born.

ANTHONY

Where'd you learn your technique?

STEVEN

What technique?

ANTHONY

Exactly. What technique. It's spray and pray amateur hour when you show up. You left a mess at De Sousa's.

STEVEN

I don't know what the hell you're talking about?

Anthony laughs:

ANTHONY

You're a poor liar too.

Anthony walks over to Steven. He shows Steven the photo of the dead De Sousa on his phone:

ANTHONY (CONT'D)

You leave so much evidence a blind man could find you. Your girlfriend is a liability, and you stash your weapon in the freezer. Amateurs get killed or do time.

*

STEVEN

What do you know about Amber?

Steven angry, rises. Anthony puts the gun in his throat:

ANTHONY

I'm a professional. It's my job to know people. And yeah, I know more about her than you do.

STEVEN

Fuck you!!

Steven stands, angry again. Anthony smirks.

ANTHONY

If I ever see you on my jobs again, I'll kill you. And your Momma will never find you.

*

Anthony exits.

INT. KITCHEN, STEVEN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Steven rushes to the freezer, grabbing the paper bag, finding the gun inside with the clip removed. He is embarrassed that Anthony knew.

*

*

STEVEN

Fuck me...

INT. BEDROOM, STEVEN'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

Steven enters. He is distracted. He paces.

AMBER

Are you okay, baby...?

Steven looks up, takes a moment to register Amber:

STEVEN

Umm...yeah...

AMBER

I've seen him before.

This gets Steven's attention. He moves to Amber:

STEVEN

What? Where?

AMBER

At Uncle Gorya's. I've noticed him. I've seen him with Sergei. They talk about him being too old to do what he does.

STEVEN

No shit, he's like a fuckin' dinosaur.

*

Amber gets up on her knees, her arms out to Steven:

AMBER

Don't worry about him, Gorya trusts you, he has big plans for you.

Steven lets Amber pull him into bed.

INT. BEDROOM, HEATHER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Heather is on her laptop. She searches through files for old pictures. She finds pics of ANTHONY and HEATHER 24 years ago.

An IM icon pops up on screen. It is Monique. She types:

MONIQUE (IM)

You up?

Heather types back:

HEATHER (IM)

Yup, can't sleep.

The phone rings. Heather picks up:

MONIQUE (O.S.)

What's got you tossing and turning?

HEATHER

Looking at old photos.

MONIQUE (O.S.)

Let me guess, you and Mr. Tony?

HEATHER

Am I being too harsh?

*

MONIQUE (O.S.)

Why not give it a chance?

HEATHER

You already told me that.

MONIQUE

I was right the first time I said
it and I'm right this time, too.

*

Monique hangs up. Heather looks at the pics of her and Anthony, then closes the computer.

INT. LIVING ROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Anthony paces as he listens to classical music. He sits, grabs his novel. He turns the page. Anthony picks up the phone. He scrolls to Heather's name. A beat. Anthony sighs. He can't call her. He throws the phone down.

INTERCUT INT. GYM DAY/INT. STEVEN'S APT - DAY

Anthony walks into an old school gym to work out. Steven doing his own version of training.

Anthony doing pushups.

Steven playing violent video games.

Anthony punching a heavy bag.

Steven punching opponent in video game.

Anthony hoisting a kettle bell overhead.

Steven lifting a messenger bag onto his shoulder and walking out the door.

Anthony jumping rope.

Steven riding a razor scooter while eating an apple.

Anthony shooting a Glock at indoor shooting range.

Steven arrives at Paintball Club.

EXT. PAINTBALL CLUB - MONTAGE - DAY

Mark adjusts goggles as Steven walks onto the field. Mark and Steven join their different teams and spread out amongst the obstacles. Steven runs through the obstacles, fires, hitting Mark and other PLAYERS. He dodges their shots and wins the game. The game ending alarm sounds. Mark approaches Steven.

MARK

You didn't get hit even once?!

STEVEN

Gotta run between the molecules...

EXT. HILLS - DAY

Anthony jogs up a steep hill.

INT. BAR - DAY

Steven and Mark watch football, drinking beers, doing shots.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Sergei sits on the park bench. His Driver feeds the pigeons.
Anthony walks up and sits.

ANTHONY

I met Steven the other day.

SERGEI

Gorya thinks he's got potential.

Anthony glares at Sergei, "are you serious?"

ANTHONY

Why are you using him?

SERGEI

Remember the work you did for us in
Belarus, Ukraine? Putin himself
awarded you the Golden Cross.

*

ANTHONY

I know what my credentials are.

SERGEI

So do we. And we trust you. But as
you told me, nothing lasts forever.
What if you get arrested and they
offer you a deal?

ANTHONY

That won't happen.

SERGEI

None of us know the future. Gorya
wanted someone like you. A young
version. Someone'll out live us.

*

ANTHONY

Where did Gorya find this punk?
He's worthless.

SERGEI

Relax. He's not a concern.

ANTHONY

If you're gonna end a man's life
you do it one way! Quickly, quietly
and with no evidence!

SERGEI

I still remember that job you
pulled in Bulgaria. That was some
kinky shit. How did you...?

ANTHONY

I did my homework. I knew General
Morans had some fetishes, so I made
it look like auto-erotica
asphyxiation.

(beat)

If you do it right, they don't come
looking.

SERGEI

But even the best stumble, lose
focus, get distracted, and when
that happens, we need someone to
step up and fill those shoes.

ANTHONY

Just keep Steven off my jobs, or I
will put him down.

Sergei pulls an envelope out of his jacket. Anthony opens it
to see the photo of MR. DOOLEY and his bio.

SERGEI

Mr. Dooley. Target three. Lives on
his yacht in Marina Del Ray. Mr.
Dooley has a thing for young boys,
that end up dead.

Anthony grabs the photo. He is very unmotivated. He is tired
of this life. Sergei reads the dissatisfaction on his face.

SERGEI (CONT'D)

Number three of five. You're almost
done. But you only have sixteen
more days. Tick, tick.

Anthony walks away.

*

*

*

EXT. DRIVEWAY, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - ANOTHER DAY

Anthony loads his trunk with scuba gear. April and June exit the house. They wave at Anthony:

APRIL
Hey Tony, gonna do some diving?

ANTHONY
Yeah, going to Catalina for a couple of days.

JUNE
Can I go?

ANTHONY
No, this is a boring trip, just giant squids and sea monsters.

JUNE
Ewwwwwww...

APRIL
Sounds like fun, but not something for you little one.
(awkward pause)
Can you watch June until dinner? I know it's last minute and all...

ANTHONY
Sure I'm not going anywhere until tomorrow.

APRIL
I owe you! Dinner soon!

Anthony slams the lid on the car. April walks up the stairs.

ANTHONY
Want some eggs?

June looks at Anthony.

JUNE
You should buy a cookbook.

EXT. DESSERT ROAD DRIVING - NIGHT

Two Russian Thugs still driving through the night, smoking.

THUG #2
(Russian)
It's not right.

THUG #1
(Russian)
It's your job...shutup.

EXT. STEVEN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

A limo pulls up. Amber, laughing, exits. She leans back in the limo as if she forgot something.

SHOW Steven in the window above, checking out Amber.

INT. LIVING ROOM, STEVEN'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

It is dark. Amber enters. The light is flipped on. Amber startles. Steven hovers next to her:

STEVEN
Where the hell you been?!!

AMBER
Chill out!!!

Amber pushes off Steven's chest. She enters the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN, STEVEN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Amber pours a glass of wine. Steven is infuriated:

STEVEN
If you're fucking some dude I'll
kill him.

Amber smiles. She kisses Steven's neck. He starts to soften.

AMBER
Did you miss me tonight?

STEVEN
Of course...I was lonely as fuck.

AMBER
Well, I'm here, baby, and I'm all
yours to do what you want.

Steven laughs. He pulls Amber to him for a kiss.

STEVEN
I just love you and...sometimes I
just...

AMBER
You're hot when you're angry.

Steven pulls Amber to him, kissing her. Amber kisses back. Steven pushes her down on the counter, kissing her hard. Amber looks off in thought.

EXT. MARINA DEL RAY - NIGHT

Through a thermal scope: we SEE the iridescent heat signature of MR. DOOLEY as he relaxes on his yacht. He sips a cocktail. He hears something at the stern. He stands and steps down to the swim step. Nothing.

Mr. Dooley steps up and sits down, sipping his drink. He hears again. Mr. Dooley puts his drink down and moves down to the swim step, looking in the water.

Suddenly, Anthony's ARM shoots out of the water, grabbing Mr. Dooley's ankle and pulling him into the harbor water. Mr. Dooley fights for his life with Anthony.

Mr. Dooley manages to break away from Anthony, and he pulls himself back onto the swim step.

Then, Anthony rises out of the water, and throws a knife. The knife embeds in Mr. Dooley's chest. He drops.

Anthony rises and yanks Mr. Dooley from the yacht, pulling his body under the swim step. Mr. Dooley's blood glows green through the Thermal Scope.

INT. GORYA'S LIMO - NIGHT

Sergei and Gorya sit on the back seat parked near the harbor. Gorya looks through the thermal scope.

SERGEI

It gives me chills to watch him!

GORYA

He's good. I'll give him that, this is all he knows...trust me.

SERGEI

His eyes tell me he's done.

Gorya laughs.

GORYA

Then maybe we should "retire" him permanently and put him down like a lame dog.

SERGEI

He's been loyal-

Gorya's stare gets Sergei off.

EXT. BACKYARD, ANTHONY'S HOME - NIGHT

Anthony is by his pool, looking at the moon. June speaks from her backyard, startling Anthony:

JUNE (O.S.)

Thought you were going to Catalina?

Anthony sees June staring through the fence:

ANTHONY

Hey June Bug.

JUNE

Am I bugging you?

ANTHONY

No, it's...never mind.

JUNE

Can I come over?

INT. ANTHONY'S KITCHEN - DAY

JUNE

I had a dad but they divorced. I see him around Christmas. What about your parents?

*
*

ANTHONY

My sister died in a Russian Gulag and my mother and father live in Sweden.

*
*

JUNE

Are you Russian?

ANTHONY

I was. When it was USSR. See.

Anthony shows her his tattoo.

JUNE

You going to marry that lady?

ANTHONY

I don't think she wants me. I may be moving to the Bahamas alone.

*
*

JUNE

Nooo, she's your princess and you have to fight for her!

Anthony smiles.

*

INT. LIVING ROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - ANOTHER DAY

Anthony sips coffee, and opens an email on his phone. He eyes a photo of KIM SOON.

SERGEI (O.S.)

Target four. Kim Soon. Very rich.
Every Wednesday at noon he walks
for sushi without his bodyguard.

EXT. SUSHI RESTAURANT, KOREATOWN - DAY

Anthony is dressed like a tourist from the Midwest. He has a camera with a telephoto lens.

THROUGH THE CAMERA we SEE KIM SOON exit the restaurant. He walks down the alley next to the restaurant.

EXT. KOREA TOWN ALLEY - MOMENTS LATER - DAY

Anthony looks at a "Map of the Stars" as he stumbles into the alley trailing Kim Soon. Kim Soon slows. Anthony reaches into his jacket, drawing his Glock.

Kim Soon turns a corner. Anthony hurries and turns the corner as a BODYGUARD, a Stout Asian Man 30's, scissor kicks Anthony in the head.

Anthony drops his Glock. He rises fuzzy as the Bodyguard charges. Anthony throws a roundhouse kick, knocking the Bodyguard in the throat. The Bodyguard is stunned. Anthony kicks again. He misses. The Bodyguard slams Anthony face first into a wall. Anthony spins, getting the Bodyguard in a head lock and slamming his knee into the Bodyguard's face.

There is a Pfffft of a silencer shot. Anthony turns. Kim Soon lays dead.

The Bodyguard grabs a 2x4 and slams it into Anthony's back. Anthony drops, in pain. The Bodyguard scrambles to grab Anthony's weapon. He lifts it, aiming at Anthony's head.

Then, another shot. The Bodyguard is hit in the forehead and drops at Anthony's feet. Anthony looks up to see:

A silhouetted FIGURE holding a gun at the end of the alley.

Then, the Figure steps into the light. It is Steven. He hurries up to Anthony:

STEVEN

I've been following you. Let's go.

Steven helps the battered Anthony to his feet. They run off together with Anthony limping behind.

EXT. SUSHI RESTAURANT - DAY

Steven and Anthony run out of the alley to a quiet area.

STEVEN

We need to talk. Ten o'clock
Milty's Bar.

ANTHONY

Okay.

Steven nods. Anthony runs off. Steven runs off.

INT. BATHROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - LATER - DAY

Anthony exits the shower. His face is bruised. His eye is black. His forehead is scratched. Anthony stares in the mirror. Again he has a look of judgment in his eyes, "this is the life that you've chosen." He sighs.

Anthony looks at the photo of the Bahamas. Anthony lifts his cellphone and taps in the digits. *

HEATHER (O.S.)

Hi, this is Heather. I'm away from
my phone. Please leave a message.

ANTHONY

Hey, it was great seeing you at the
bowling alley. Maybe we could bump
into each other on purpose, soon...

Anthony hangs up.

EXT. STEVEN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

A limo pulls up. The DRIVER opens the back door. Amber exits Steven's apartment building and enters the limo.

INT. LIMO - NIGHT

Gorya sits in the back. Amber enters. She leans into Gorya and gives him a kiss. Gorya grabs Amber's ass.

AMBER

Hey Mr. G...

GORYA

Are you being good girl? *

Gorya hands Amber a glass of wine:

AMBER

Of course. Keeping Steven focused.
Is his work okay?

GORYA

Meh, he is getting the job done.
Keep him focused on St. Barts. If
he fucks up, I might have to find
you a new boyfriend.

AMBER

Whatever you say, "Uncle."

Amber laughs. Gorya pulls Amber into him kissing her neck. *
Amber barely hides her disgust. *

INT. MILTY'S BAR - NIGHT

Anthony sips his vodka.

ANTHONY

(on phone)

No, this time I want 100 on the
Knicks to win.

PAULIE

(o.s.)

Switching teams. But ya only got
5000 on account, you expect me to
front you the difference? *

ANTHONY

I've got A LOT of money coming in.

PAULIE

(o.s.)

How much is a lot?

ANTHONY

Millions. *

PAULIE

(o.s.)

Millions? Okay...don't fuck me on
this. *

Click the call is over.

Steven struts in. He sees Anthony and beams, holding his arms
wide, waiting for praise:

STEVEN

So?

Steven sits.

ANTHONY

You are a good shot. I'll give you that.

STEVEN

Damn skippy! You wouldn't be here if I wasn't. Call me Super Stevie. *

ANTHONY

Yes, thank you. But shooting is just one piece of the puzzle.

Steven downs his beer. He burps. Anthony shakes his head:

STEVEN

So, show me the other pieces. *

BEAT *

ANTHONY

You have a very cavalier attitude. You're a mess and a danger. This is a serious business, where you do your research, study the target, know what the police are looking for and don't leave a trail a mile wide and a foot fuckin' deep! *

STEVEN

Kind of like what you left behind at the sushi place.

ANTHONY

A mistake. A break in concentration.

STEVEN

Yeah, and I saved your ass.

ANTHONY

Temporary lapse in focus.

Steven smiles.

STEVEN

You need me to watch your back.

Anthony gives him a blank look.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Did you really whack a drug lord in his compound in Medellin?

Anthony looks long at Steven.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

After the night you stopped by, I asked Gorya. He respects you.

ANTHONY

He should. I've done his dirty work for twenty five years.

STEVEN

Wow, that's a lot of bodies, dude. Offing a drug lord in his own digs. Ballsy.

Anthony leans back in his chair, flattered.

ANTHONY

He wanted to buy some soviet mini subs to transport product. I was able to plant a device under his desk. Two days later I set it off. Made it look like a rival did it.

STEVEN

That is sooo fucking cool! Teach me! I'm a good student.

BEAT

*

ANTHONY

I do owe you.

STEVEN

Yes, you do!

ANTHONY

(beat)
My house, eight a.m.

STEVEN

Eight? Bro? Really?

Anthony stares at him.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Okay...eight.

INT. FRONT YARD, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - DAY

A sleepy Steven walks up to the front door with a Starbucks. Steven knocks on the door. A beat. Steven knocks again. *

Then, a knife is put against Steven's throat. He drops his Starbucks. Anthony stands behind Steven:

ANTHONY

Never ever let down your guard.

Anthony steps back, smiling. Steven looks at his coffee:

STEVEN

You owe me a double latte.

ANTHONY

That spilt latte might save your life one day. Stay on your toes. Don't assume. Don't react. Think ahead. *

STEVEN

You told me to be here at eight.

ANTHONY

And you assumed I was friendly. You accepted that we had a truce. So you didn't think this through at all.

STEVEN

Ok, fine! One point for the Ruskie. *

ANTHONY

This isn't some game, it's your life. *

Anthony opens the door. He ushers Steven inside.

INT. GARAGE, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - DAY

Steven is impressed with the gym. Anthony lifts a garden hoe. A hidden door opens. Anthony gestures, let's go.

STEVEN

Cool!

INT. SECRET ROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - DAY

Anthony switches on the lights. Steven is impressed to see a makeup station complete with wigs, moustaches, noses, passports, watches, etc. And a wall of weapons; handguns, bow and arrow, rifles, shotguns, swords.

STEVEN

Holy shit, it's like The Killer
Depot in here!

*

Steven fondles the handle on the Japanese sword.

ANTHONY

Focus. Eyes off the shiny things.

Anthony grabs the sword and in a flash it is at Steven's
throat. Steven laughs, backs up.

STEVEN

Okay, teach me.

ANTHONY

After getting the parameters of a
job what is the first thing that
you think of?

STEVEN

Umm, his locay. How far it is. How
I can get there?

Steven takes a Mac 10 off the wall. Anthony snatches it back.

ANTHONY

Location is good but before that,
you should learn all about his
habits, his health, any secrets.
For example, you learn that your
target is a diabetic?

*

STEVEN

Sugar bullets?

Steven opens another drawer and holds up a large syringe with
needle. Again Anthony grabs it and returns it to it's place.

ANTHONY

Focus!

STEVEN

Sorry, I got A.D.D.

ANTHONY

And that, young man, will get you
killed. Sit down. Hand me your cell
phone. Eyes on me.

Steven sits. He hands Anthony his phone. He fidgets. His eyes
wander. Anthony grabs a whip off a table, and whips it,
hitting Steven in the chest. Steven grimaces in pain:

*

STEVEN
Owww...what the fuck?!

ANTHONY
Focus!

STEVEN
Okay, okay...you got my attention!

ANTHONY
Okay, target diabetic?

STEVEN
Insulin overdose?

ANTHONY
Good. Anytime you can make it look like natural causes, an accident or even suicide you're better off.

STEVEN
Do a target with a bad heart?

ANTHONY
I'd find out what meds he's taking. Digoxin and Potassium are common, and in high doses can cause fatal arrhythmias.

STEVEN
How many different ways can you whack a guy?

ANTHONY
Maybe fifty.

STEVEN
Fifty? Dude, you rock.

Steven opens a drawer marked "wigs." Anthony kicks it shut, then drops to a knee, punching Steven in the thigh.

STEVEN (CONT'D)
Ohh shit, Charlie horse...!!

Steven bends over in pain.

ANTHONY
Focus!!
(gestures, listen)
When somebody looks at you what is the first thing they see?

STEVEN

That I'm one handsome mofo!

Anthony laughs. He nods, then:

ANTHONY

Okay handsome, do you want to be recognized at a crime scene or slip through the cracks unnoticed?

STEVEN

I don't want to end up in prison.

ANTHONY

Or dead. Wait here...

Anthony backs out of view. Steven opens a drawer marked "passports" and rifles through the fake documents.

Anthony returns on crutches, wearing a skull cap, long greasy grey hair, a moustache, and black frame glasses. He speaks with a Southern dialect:

ANTHONY (CONT'D)

Excuse me, 'kin ya spare five bucks fer a vet'ran?

STEVEN

Dude, awesome!

Anthony removes the costume while speaking.

ANTHONY

Most of your jobs are messy. You come in guns blasting. Why not get close and kill quietly?

STEVEN

Sure, if I could do that. This is how I was taught.

ANTHONY

Do you want to be great?

STEVEN

Yes.

ANTHONY

Then put in the work. Be the best.

STEVEN

I want that.

MONTAGE OF SHOTS IN SECRET ROOM

- Anthony holding up a vial of medicine.
- Anthony shows how 2 liter coke bottle is used as a poor man's silencer.
- Steven thrusts hands in the air after assembling Mac-10 semi-auto machine gun. Anthony holds up missing part.
- Anthony traces carotid artery with large knife along Steven's neck.
- Anthony shows how cell phone can be wired to explosives.
- Anthony showing him how to score the bullet with a file to confuse the ballistics experts.
- In private gym room adjacent to Secret Room, Anthony schools Steven in hand to hand combat. Being attacked from behind he flips Steven over his shoulder. Steven practices the same move on Anthony.
- Steven charges Anthony with a knife, is blocked and taken into an arm bar submission.
- Another practice scenario has Steven walking into the gym hallway with gun drawn, Anthony bridging hallway with his body eight feet up, drops onto him and wrestles gun free.

ANTHONY

That's enough for today.

Steven yawning. He enjoyed the companionship.

STEVEN

I'll say.

ANTHONY

We'll hit it again tomorrow.

STEVEN

How 'bout you join me in training?

EXT. PAINTBALL CLUB - MONTAGE - DAY

Anthony and Steven don their protective gear.

STEVEN

That's your team over there and if you get hit anywhere you're out of the game. Comprende?

Anthony nods.

The REFEREE whistles. Both TEAMS fire furiously. Steven and Anthony run and hide behind barriers.

Steven takes out MAN #1 on Anthony's team. Anthony has yet to fire a shot.

Steven hits Anthony on the calf. Anthony continues on.

Steven waits behind a barrier, scanning the field. Anthony appears behind him.

ANTHONY

Boo.

As Steven spins, Anthony shoots him in the chest.

STEVEN

I hit you first, you're dead!

ANTHONY

Non lethal.

They both laugh.

INT. MILTY'S BAR - NIGHT

Anthony and Steven drinking and telling stories and laughing.

STEVEN

You are such a cheater!

ANTHONY

No cheating. A leg wound wouldn't have stopped me.

STEVEN

Whatever.

Steven takes a chug of beer.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

So, you've never been married?

Anthony shakes no.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

C'mon there has to be someone...

ANTHONY

There was someone, twenty five years ago but, she ran once she found out about my work.

STEVEN
What happened?

ANTHONY
She said she was going out of town
to see family...

Anthony sighs, telling the story:

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
Did a job. A real mess. A Steven
type hit.

STEVEN
Hey!

ANTHONY
When I got home, I was covered in
blood. And she was there. I walked
into her trying to surprise me.

STEVEN
Jeez, what did you do?

ANTHONY
Told her the truth.

STEVEN
Dude?!? Why?

ANTHONY
I was covered in blood, what was I
going to say?

STEVEN
Good point.

ANTHONY
She promised she wouldn't go to the
cops if I promised to disappear,
just pretend she was dead.

STEVEN
And you did it?

Anthony takes a long time. He nods.

ANTHONY
I stayed away, yes. Then she got a
job on the East Coast. I wasn't
husband material.

A long beat, Anthony shakes his head:

STEVEN

You're a good dude, I mean, you
gotta good heart, when you aren't
whacking people.

*

Steven tries to make Anthony laugh. He is too distracted:

ANTHONY

I ran into her a few weeks ago.

STEVEN

No way! Did she run?

ANTHONY

No. She's back in town. I think she
missed me a little. But she's still
real scared.

STEVEN

You gotta go for it. She gets you,
That's why me and my girl Amber are
so tight. We just get each other.

ANTHONY

Yeah, I met her that night in your
apartment.

STEVEN

Ohh yeah, right. She wants to get
together with you, under a far less
stressful situation, cool...?

ANTHONY

Sure. We can do that. Some time.

EXT. DESERT RAVINE - NIGHT

Two Russian Thugs back the car to the ravine edge and get
out. Thug #1 pops the trunk from inside the car gets out and
lights a cigarette, while Thug #2 goes to the rear of the car
and stares into the trunk.

THUG #1

(Russian)

Let's go!

Thug #2 lifts the large green plastic bag from the trunk and
gently places it at the ravine edge and slides it into the
darkness. He returns to the car and repeats the slow
deliberate action.

THUG #1 (CONT'D)

(Russian)

My grandmother moves faster!

Thug #1 grabs the plastic bags and heaves them over the side, slamming the trunk lid and gassing it back to the main road.

THUG #1 (CONT'D)
 (Russian)
 Fuckin pussy.

INT. KITCHEN, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Anthony paces. He dials his cellphone. Heather answers:

HEATHER (O.S.)
 Hello?

ANTHONY
 It's Tony. Are you working tonight?
 Did I catch you at a bad time?

HEATHER (O.S.)
 I'm working, yes, but tonight's
 slow. How are you...besides
 stalking me at the bowling alley?

ANTHONY
 Stalking? No. I was legitimately
 babysitting.

HEATHER
 I know, I'm having a hard time with
 that one.

ANTHONY
 Let's get together and have a glass
 of wine.

Several awkward seconds before...

HEATHER (O.S.)
 Tony...we do need to talk, there is
 something I need to tell you.

ANTHONY
 Go ahead.

HEATHER (O.S.)
 No, in person, I need to do it in
 person. Wine sounds good. I'm off
 tomorrow night? Does that work?

ANTHONY
 Sure...Nine. My house.

HEATHER (O.S.)
Okay. Tomorrow night.

Heather hangs up. The phone buzzes again.

PAULIE
(o.s.)
You have the worst fuckin' luck
don't you?

ANTHONY
I'll get you the money. Just a
couple of days.

PAULIE
(o.s.)
Two days or I tell Heather you're
still working.

Click.

INT. MILTY'S BAR - DAY

Sergei sits in a corner booth. Anthony approaches and sits.

SERGEI
The Korean job was sloppy. What's
happened to you? The cops know it
was a hit.

ANTHONY
Job got done.

*

Anthony turns as Gorya and Thug #1 walk up. Sergei feels
uncomfortable. Gorya sits, squeezing Anthony in the middle.

GORYA
The job got done? You sound like
that little asshole Steven. I'm
ready to be done with all of you...

Anthony takes a beat from Gorya's anger, then:

ANTHONY
Sergei said you wanted five hits
done in a month. He said it didn't
matter who killed who.

GORYA
Sergei is a puppet. I'm here to
tell you you're getting soft.

Anthony winces as if he wants to punch Gorya.

ANTHONY

Is that why you called me here?

Gorya shows Anthony a pic of BOBBY MITCHELL.

GORYA

Target five. Besides being the leader of the child trafficking ring, he poisoned his wife with drain cleaner in front of his own kids. The things these men do to children are despicable. I would kill them with my bare hands if I had the chance.

*

*

ANTHONY

He's not behind bars?

SERGEI

Misha's lawyers pulled a miracle and got the jury to find him guilty of third degree manslaughter. He did thirteen months.

Anthony looks at the photo of Bobby Mitchell.

GORYA

You only have seven days to get this done. Or else.

ANTHONY

Anything else?

GORYA

Just end this, and then I'll give you Target Six.

Anthony glares at Gorya:

ANTHONY

Sergei said there were five!!

GORYA

Did you not hear me, Sergei is a puppet...Now there's six!

Anthony is so mad he can't look at Gorya and Sergei. He pushes Sergei out of the booth and stands. He's trying to control his anger.

ANTHONY

First Sergei lies to me about the cop. And now this bullshit?!

*

Anthony starts to leave. Thug #1 grabs his shoulder.

GORYA

You walk away and you lose out on
all the money.

*
*

ANTHONY

I don't want your money!

GORYA

Fine. You'll be dead within a week.

This is a threat. Anthony laughs.

ANTHONY

I'll take all of you with me.

Now, Gorya relaxes and chuckles to himself. In Russian he snaps his fingers and says to Thug #2

GORYA

(in Russian)

Show him the picture...

Thug #2 takes a photo from his jacket. He hands it to Anthony. It is of June jump roping in her front yard. Anthony glares at Gorya:

ANTHONY

You touch her and I'll kill you.

Gorya laughs. He opens up his coat:

GORYA

Do it! Right here! A bullet in the
heart!!

Anthony glares at Gorya.

GORYA (CONT'D)

See, you're a pussy. I know you
want a life with Heather. I know
you want out.

ANTHONY

You touch June, and I will kill
you.

*

GORYA

Yes, yes, we know how much she
means to you. Finish this, and
everyone's happy. I'm a bastard,
yes, but this is life and death. I
will do what I have to do.

(MORE)

GORYA (CONT'D)

(shrugs)

Okay, okay. I'll add half million.
for number six and then you can go
to your fuckin' island.

*
*
*

Anthony shakes his head, still angry.

GORYA (CONT'D)

Valk away, and I cannot guaranteed
safety of Little Junie.

*
*

Now Anthony glares hating him but wanting his money.

GORYA (CONT'D)

Anton, we've known each other over
thirty years. Two more jobs and
you're done. Forever.

Gorya gestures for him to sit. Anthony sighs. He sits.

ANTHONY

Who is Target Six?

GORYA

Show him, Sergei.

*

Sergei lifts his phone. He scrolls to a pic. He shows the
phone to Anthony. It is a photo of Steven. Anthony's eyes go
wide. He doesn't know how to react.

ANTHONY

The kid?

GORYA

You two have gotten sloppy. I only
need one hitter.

*

Anthony stands and walks away.

GORYA (CONT'D)

And say hello to June for me.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The doorbell rings. Anthony answers. Heather stands holding a
bottle of wine. Heather laughs. She steps in. Anthony hugs
her. She looks at his bruised face.

HEATHER

What happened?

ANTHONY
Fell off my bike.

HEATHER
Be more careful will you?

ANTHONY
I have wine.

HEATHER
You drink vodka and don't know shit
about wine. It's okay. I'm sure
I'll drink more than one bottle.

ANTHONY
It's nice to hug you again.

Heather looks into Anthony's eyes. She can see that there is
pain behind the bruises. Something is bothering Anthony.

HEATHER
Is everything all right?

ANTHONY
Of course! I'm nervous, but, come
in, come in.

Heather nods. She steps up and hugs Anthony again.

HEATHER
I have to warn you. I've already
had two glasses.

*

ANTHONY
Good. I've had a few myself.

EXT. BACKYARD, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - MINUTES LATER - NIGHT

Anthony sips Vodka and refills Heather's glass of red.

ANTHONY
I'm leaving for the Bahamas soon.

HEATHER
Oh...

ANTHONY
This is good news. I'm selling the
security business. It's in escrow
in fact. Should have the money in a
week or so.

*

*

HEATHER

I'm very happy for you. I don't
know how I feel about you going to
the Bahamas...

*
*

Anthony leans forward and grabs Heather's hand.

ANTHONY

I want you to come with me.

HEATHER

Just quit my job, and come with
you?

*

ANTHONY

Yes. I will have plenty of money
for us to just lay in our hammocks
for the next 20 years.

*
*
*

HEATHER

It's not that simple.

*
*

ANTHONY

It is. Look, you can open up a
restaurant if you don't like the
hammock idea.

*
*
*

HEATHER

Stop, stop.

(beat)

I have MS. Soon I won't be able to
cook anymore...and...I'll need more
help getting around.

*
*

Anthony stunned but loves her even more.

ANTHONY

I don't care! I love you and want
to take care of you like I should
have years ago. We don't have that
much time, let's not waste it
again!

Heather nods slowly.

HEATHER

I love you too.

(beat)

You are a good man.

POV of June looking through hole in the fence.

EXT. BACKYARD, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Heather still stares at Anthony:

HEATHER
I'm not the same woman Tony, my
condition will get worse.

ANTHONY
Come here.

Heather saunters over and sits on the arm of Anthony's chair.

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
You are more gorgeous than ever.

HEATHER
Heavier too...

Anthony pulls Heather to him for an overdue passionate kiss.

ANTHONY
God, I've missed you.

INT. KITCHEN, APRIL'S HOME - NIGHT

June runs into the house.

JUNE
Mom...mom!

April washes the dishes.

JUNE (CONT'D)
Tony REALLY has a girlfriend!

APRIL
June! Are you spying on him again?

JUNE
Umm...a little.

April bends down to June's height and looks her in the eye.

APRIL
Honey...it's wrong to spy...He
needs his privacy, okay?

June reluctantly nods.

JUNE
Okay, Mom.

APRIL

Now get ready for bed.

INT. BEDROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - MONTAGE - NIGHT

Anthony and Heather make passionate love.

Heather lays on Anthony's chest:

HEATHER

Can I trust you this time?

ANTHONY

Yes. You know I never stopped
thinking about you. I was wrong to
not quit back then.

*

HEATHER

But you didn't...

ANTHONY

I was scared. I was new in this
country...I didn't know what else I
could do to make money.

A long beat. Heather nods.

HEATHER

We can't change the past.

Anthony nods.

A beat, then:

HEATHER (CONT'D)

But if you have changed. I mean
really changed then there is
something I need to share with you.

*

*

*

*

ANTHONY

What is it?

*

*

HEATHER

A...surprise.

*

*

ANTHONY

A surprise? Just so you know,
nothing will change my mind. I'm
ready for this.

*

HEATHER

That's really good to know. Come to
my place Sunday for dinner you'll
find out.

*

*

*

Anthony kisses Heather. She nods, hugging him to her chest.

INT. GARAGE, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - DAY

Anthony has different handguns spread on the table. Steven enters. Anthony looks up at him, and grabs his .44 magnum.

STEVEN

Dude, that's a big gun.

Anthony stares at Steven, then lifts the .44 at Steven and flips the grip to him.

ANTHONY

Have you ever shot something this powerful?

Steven grabs the gun. He smiles:

STEVEN

You looked scary there for a sec.

ANTHONY

Let's workout.

INT. GARAGE, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - MONTAGE - DAY

Anthony and Steven workout with weights. They hit the heavy bag. They hit the speed bag. They do push up, sits ups

Anthony instructs Steven basic hand-to-hand combat.

Anthony shows Steven some martial-arts moves.

STEVEN

Hey how bout you have dinner with Amber and I tonight?

*
*

ANTHONY

No...can't tonight.

*
*

STEVEN

Oh, ok. 'nother time.

*
*

Anthony takes off his shirt. Steven sees the USSR tattoo:

STEVEN (CONT'D)

You a Russian spy or something?

ANTHONY

No, no, I'm as American as you are. I defected twenty five years ago.

STEVEN
Why didn't you tell me?

ANTHONY
Didn't think it mattered.

STEVEN
Any other big surprises?

ANTHONY
No...

STEVEN
So, why can't you join us tonight?

ANTHONY
Let's just finish the job tomorrow.

STEVEN
But soon, ok?

*

ANTHONY
Yeah. Sure...

Anthony seems distracted.

INT. CORELLI'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Sergei and Gorya sit at a table. THUGS at another table.

SERGEI
Have you told Steven about Target Six?

GORYA
He has A.D.D. Let him finish Target Five first. Don't worry, I know how to push Steven's buttons.

SERGEI
My gut tells me that Anton will not go after Steven.

GORYA
Then we force his hand. Take his neighbor girl and hold her until he finishes with six. That will get Anthony to act. And then... we put her on the open market.

Heather comes out of the kitchen. Gorya kisses her hand.

GORYA (CONT'D)

Our girl! Another wonderful meal!
We are so happy you're back from
New York!

SERGEI

And still as beautiful as ever!

HEATHER

You two always make me blush.

EXT. FRONT YARD, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Amber is at the front door. She rings the doorbell. Anthony answers. He is shocked to see it is Amber.

AMBER

Hey Tony.

ANTHONY

Amber, What are you doing here? *

AMBER

I want to talk about Steven.

Amber throws her arms around Anthony's neck and kisses him on the mouth. After a moment of shock, Anthony pushes her away.

AMBER (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, I can't do this. I'm
sorry...really...I'm sorry...

Amber slips a business card into his back pocket. As she backs away from him she says silently: CALL ME.

Amber rushes away.

INT. ANTHONY'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Anthony drunk on the couch eyes nearing closed with the tv on a burst of an automatic weapon fires through his front window. Anthony hits the floor at the same time he receives a text message.

It reads: You now owe 150k with the vig. *

INT. ANTHONY'S CHALLENGER - THE NEXT DAY

Anthony and Steven wear black suits and black ties. They drive in a quiet suburban neighborhood.

STEVEN

Nice hood. Child trafficking pays. *

Anthony pulls the car to the curb.

ANTHONY

Never park in front of the house.
It arouses suspicion. Now follow my
lead and we'll clear out witnesses.

Anthony and Steven exit the car.

EXT. BOBBY MITCHELL'S NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

NEIGHBORS talk in front yards. Anthony strides quickly up,
holding a Bible and a backpack:

ANTHONY (CONT'D)

Have you heard the good news? Jesus
wants to help you!

The Neighbors back away. Steven steps in front of Anthony:

STEVEN

If you bring the Lord into your
heart you will feel his love and
forgiveness. Praise the lord!

*
*

The Neighbors scatter and go into their homes. Anthony nods:

ANTHONY

Well played.

EXT. BOBBY MITCHELL'S HOUSE - DAY

Anthony and Steven scoot down the side yard through a gate.

EXT. BACKYARD, BOBBY MITCHELL'S HOUSE - DAY

Anthony and Steven don black latex gloves. Steven opens the
door with a credit card.

INT. LIVING ROOM, BOBBY MITCHELL'S HOUSE - MONTAGE - DAY

Anthony and Steven search the house. Nothing.

STEVEN

Now what?

ANTHONY

We wait.

INT. KITCHEN, BOBBY MITCHELL'S HOUSE - DAY

Steven opens the refrigerator to various Gatorades.

STEVEN
Want some Gatorade?

ANTHONY
What flavor?

STEVEN
Fuck this dude has everything. We
got, Punch. That blue shit, Cherry
Berry, Fierce Grape.

*
*

ANTHONY
Original.

STEVEN
Figures.

INT. LIVING ROOM, BOBBY MITCHELL'S HOUSE - MONTAGE - DAY

Anthony sits calmly as Steven fidgets about. Anthony notices
the high ceiling and the heavy rafter beam.

As the sunlight drops lower the level also drops in the
Gatorade bottles.

Steven examines the books in the bookcase.

STEVEN
Man I wonder what made this guy
snap. Money?

*
*

ANTHONY
Money, Passion. Meth. It makes
people crazy. Don't take any job
where you have an emotional
connection or it will go to shit...
(snaps his fingers)
...like that.

*
*
*

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
How did you get started in this?

STEVEN
Got in a fight with a bouncer at
one of Gorya's clubs. Hit his head,
went into a coma. They charged me
with attempted murder. Gorya's
lawyers got me off. I owed him.
Gorya started training me. And it
paid well...

*

ANTHONY
Just like that?

STEVEN

He said he saw potential in me,
said I was a natural.

ANTHONY

You just did it so easy?

STEVEN

Not the first couple but after a
few...

*
*

Steven looks off, this is hard, then:

STEVEN (CONT'D)

So, that Russian spy stuff must've
been really cool, eh?

ANTHONY

Not all of it went smoothly.

(laughs)

Once we had some female agents pose
as stewardesses. They convinced the
President of Indonesia to have an
orgy. We filmed him, then we
brought him into a theater to see
his debauchery. He was a married
man, family man, so we thought this
would flip him.

(chuckles more)

At the end of the film he stands,
applauds and thanks us. He thought
it was a gift from the Russians and
he wanted copies so the Indonesian
people could see how great he was!

Steven laughs. He stands:

STEVEN

Gotta take a leak.

Steven walks to the bathroom.

INT. BATHROOM, BOBBY MITCHELL'S HOUSE - DAY

Steven takes a leak. He HEARS a car pull into the driveway.
Steven peaks out the window to SEE: BOBBY MITCHELL.

STEVEN

We've got a customer.

Steven zips up quickly.

INT. LIVING ROOM, BOBBY MITCHELL'S HOUSE - DAY

BOBBY MITCHELL, scrawny, greasy hair, sleeve tats, enters, carrying a gym bag. Anthony comes from one hallway. Steven raises from behind the couch. Guns drawn.

BOBBY
Whooo...shit...

ANTHONY
Don't move or yell or we will kill
you right there.

*

Bobby nods. He drops his gym bag, raising his arms:

BOBBY
Whaddya you guys want?!

ANTHONY
Oh, before I forget we had two
bottles of Gatorade. Twenty bucks
will cover it, right?

BOBBY
Please don't kill me!

Anthony throws a twenty dollar bill on the counter.

ANTHONY
Neither myself or my partner will
be killing you today. So you can
relax and put your mind at ease.

BOBBY
Okay. But what do you want?

Bobby's eyes are darting from Anthony to Steven.

ANTHONY
What was it like being married?

BOBBY
Whaaaaat?

ANTHONY
This is kind of personal but, I'm
thinking of tying the knot.

STEVEN
Did you hook up with that old
girlfriend?

ANTHONY
Yeah.

STEVEN

Cool. Congrats.

ANTHONY

See Bobby, I could use some advice.

Bobby flinches as Anthony puts his hand on his shoulder.

BOBBY

What are you talking about?

ANTHONY

You must have been in love to have two kids, Cindy and Bobbie, and be married for ten years.

BOBBY

How do you know my kids names?
Please...Please don't touch my kids...I'll do anything...do you want money? I got lots of money!
Lemme show you.

Bobby's eyes bulge in fear.

ANTHONY

So if you were in love, why would you pour Drano down your wife's throat in front of your children?
(to Steven)
It eats right through the mouth and everything.

*

STEVEN

You're a sick fuck.

BOBBY

No, no...she deserved it!!
She cheated on me, I caught her!

*

Steven nods to Anthony "good job."

STEVEN

Dude, you guessed it, crime of passion.

BOBBY

Just tell me what you want!

ANTHONY

You need to write a letter to your children asking for forgiveness.

*

BOBBY

Whaaat?

Anthony nods. Steven pushes him into a chair at the dining table. Anthony slides some paper in front of him.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

You two are fucking nuts.

Anthony backhands Bobby with the butt of the gun. It slices a gash under Bobby's cheek. Blood drops on the table.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Stop...!! Are you serious?

Bobby holds his cheek.

ANTHONY

Do I not look serious?

BOBBY

Okay, okay...I'll write a letter to my kids. Is that all?

ANTHONY

Then you're going to hang yourself from that rafter.

Anthony points to the rafter in the ceiling. Bobby rises to run. Steven backhands him, knocking him over the chair.

Anthony clicks on a recording on his Iphone.

CHILDREN'S VOICES (O.S.)

Daddy, help! Please daddy help!

Bobby starts to cry. He crawls towards Anthony. Steven kicks him in the face.

BOBBY

Where are my kids?!

ANTHONY

Our partners are holding them

Bobby, sobbing, reaches up towards Anthony. Steven kicks him.

BOBBY

Please I love my children, please don't hurt them!!

ANTHONY

If you write the letter, and hang
from that rafter they'll be
released unharmed.

BOBBY

If I don't?

STEVEN

Then your kids will be turned over
to two registered sex offenders.

*
*

BOBBY

Those are my kids!

STEVEN

Well, that's what you do, isn't it?

Anthony plays the recording again.

CHILDREN'S VOICES (O.S.)

Daddy, help! Please daddy help!

BOBBY

I didn't mean to kill her, I just
wanted to scare-

STEVEN

Killing is a bit more than scaring.

BOBBY

I got money! Lots of it. You both
can have it! Just don't touch my
kids. Please! Come with me!

Bobby stands. Steven looks at Anthony. Anthony nods "okay."

INT. BEDROOM, BOBBY MITCHELL'S HOUSE - DAY

Bobby leads them to a closet with a file cabinet inside.

BOBBY

Help me move this, it's heavy.

Anthony and Steven look at each other.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

It's under the house, man.

Once the file cabinet is slid out, Bobby pulls back the
carpet and using a screw driver opens the access hole.

Bobby reaches down, grabbing two large duffel bags. Bobby
unzips the bags, revealing they are filled with cash.

BOBBY (CONT'D)
See! Look! You can have it all.

Anthony nods in approval and puts the barrel of the gun to Bobby's head.

ANTHONY
Now write the letter.

Bobby, wipes the tears from his eyes, and nods.

INT. LIVING ROOM, BOBBY MITCHELL'S HOUSE - LATER - DAY

Anthony's backpack is open. The rope is tied over the rafter beam. Bobby stands on a chair with a noose around his neck and tears streaming down his face. Steven stands next to him.

BOBBY
Promise me you won't hurt my kids.

ANTHONY
You have my word.

A beat. Bobby closes his eyes. He doesn't move.

BOBBY
I can't do it.

STEVEN
Just tip the chair back.

BOBBY
I don't want to die!

STEVEN
Who does?! DO IT fucker...!!

Bobby starts to tip the chair. Then, he backs the chair down:

BOBBY
I can't do it.

Steven kicks the chair over. Bobby gasps and grabs at the noose around his neck as his face goes from crimson to blue to purple with his legs kicking wildly in the air.

ANTHONY
Let's go.

Steven can't look away or move.

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
Let's go!!

STEVEN

What about the money?

ANTHONY

Right.

Steven dashes into the house and returns with the two bags and hands one to Anthony as they exit the backyard.

INT. ANTHONY'S CHALLENGER - DAY

Anthony drives out of the neighborhood.

STEVEN

Where did you get that recording?
Of his kids?

ANTHONY

The guy had two videos on youtube teaching his kids to swim. I just cut and spliced the "help me daddy's" and changed the pitch a little.

STEVEN

You're good.

Anthony nods.

ANTHONY

I'm done. This was my last job.
Moving to the Bahamas.

STEVEN

Really? What about your lady?

ANTHONY

I'm hoping she comes with me.

EXT. CITY SIDEWALK - DAY

Anthony's Challenger pulls up to the curb and Amber hops in.

AMBER

Drive to the desert. Whatever you think of me, realize I had no choice.

*

ANTHONY

Ok.

AMBER

I was paid to be with Steven and keep an eye on him.

ANTHONY

Gorya?

AMBER

Yes. He's working my 13 year old sister as a prostitute and I'm trying to buy her way out.

*

ANTHONY

You have no feelings for Steven I take it?

AMBER

Not initially no, but, but, now I do! He's good to me. But I've been lying to him... Keep driving I have to show you something. Something awful.

*
*
*
*

The two drive into the late afternoon finally down a long dirt road to a ravine in the desert. The two exit the car and walk to the edge the sound of hundreds of flies buzzing increases with every step. Boom shot reveals dozens of green plastic bags litter the ravine bottom. Anthony spies a child's arm protruding from an open one.

ANTHONY

Oh my god...

*
*

AMBER

Gorya, did this! He is the one abducting children! Selling them and using them then...

Amber trails off into tears.

ANTHONY

I'm killing his rivals?

AMBER

Yes, so he can do more of this, corner the world market in... Can you help me?

Anthony looks at her.

AMBER (CONT'D)

If you kill that sick fuckin'
bastard, my sister will be free and
maybe...Steven and I...can move
away.

ANTHONY

Let's go.

The two climb back into the car and he floors it sending dirt
and rocks spraying.

INT. BEDROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - LATER - DAY

Anthony undresses from the black clothes. A suitcase is open
on the bed. The KFC buckets full of cash are on the bed. The
phone rings. Anthony looks at his screen. It is HEATHER:

ANTHONY

Hey, how are you?

INT. BEDROOM, HEATHER'S HOUSE - DAY

Heather sits in her bed:

HEATHER

I'm looking forward to seeing you
Sunday.

ANTHONY (O.S.)

Six o'clock?

HEATHER

Yes, it's going to be a great
night.

ANTHONY (O.S.)

I look forward to it.

HEATHER

I really want to be open and honest
about everything from now on, okay?

ANTHONY (O.S.)

Absolutely. See you soon. I love
you.

Heather has been waiting to hear those words. She doesn't
know how to respond. She smiles. She pauses, then:

HEATHER

I...I'll see you Sunday.

*

INT. LIVING ROOM, STEVEN'S APARTMENT - DAY

Steven enters, still in his black clothes. He drops the duffel bags on the floor.

STEVEN
Hey Babe, I'm home...

No answer. Steven enters the bedroom, then comes back out. He gets his phone, dials her number and hears it vibrate on the bed:

AMBER (O.S.)
It's Amber. Say something.

Steven hangs up, frustrated. Steven's phone beeps. He's received a text from a blocked number. Steven opens the text:

One photo of Amber standing on Anthony's porch. Another photo of Amber and Anthony embracing as they kiss.

Steven's eyes open wide in shock and anger. He grabs her phone and looks at recent calls then compares it to Anthony's phone number on his phone. It's the same.

STEVEN
You are a dead MOTHER FUCKER!!!!

EXT. BACKYARD, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - LATER - EVENING

Anthony sits by the pool, a vodka in his hand.

EXT. BACKYARD, APRIL'S HOUSE - EVENING

June is jumping rope in the back patio. She stops and looks over to the fence of Anthony's house. She is nosy. She wants to look and see what Tony's doing. June jumps ropes.

EXT. BACKYARD, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - EVENING

Steven enters full of steam, wearing black latex gloves, holding his Glock.

STEVEN
What the fuck man?!

Anthony startled, stands:

ANTHONY
What's going on...?

STEVEN
You know what's going on
muthafucker!

Anthony tries to calm the intense Steven:

ANTHONY

I had the chance to take you out.
I'm choosing not too. I'm leaving
town. The job is yours.

EXT. BACKYARD, APRIL'S HOUSE - NIGHT

June hears yelling and goes to her spy hole in the fence. She sees Anthony and Steven arguing.

EXT. BACKYARD, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - DAY

Steven has the Glock aimed at Anthony's chest:

STEVEN

What are you talking about?!!

ANTHONY

Target six!!

STEVEN

Target six?! There is no target
six. You had to show who was top
dog!! You couldn't be happy with
your girlfriend, you had to fuck
mine too?!

ANTHONY

I haven't touched Amber.

STEVEN

Liar...! We all know how well you
can lie! Why her? Why did you have
to do that to me? Why?!

ANTHONY

We are both being played.

Steven takes out his phone. He throws it to Anthony. He gestures for Anthony to pick it up.

STEVEN

Look at the pics...

Anthony bends to the phone. He sees Amber hugging and kissing Anthony. Anthony holds the phone out to Steven:

ANTHONY

Gorya set that up. He wants one of
us to kill the other. Gorya only
wants one of us working. We are
both Target Six!

(MORE)

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
He's kidnaping and killing these
kids, Amber showed me in the
desert!

STEVEN
You were with her!

Tears fall down Steven's cheeks.

ANTHONY
I'm telling you the truth.

STEVEN
I thought you were cool man. You
betrayed me. YOU BETRAYED ME!

ANTHONY
Amber loves you. I'm in love with
my woman. I want the best for you.

STEVEN
Fuck you!!

Steven lifts the gun, squeezing the trigger. Anthony is too fast and dives for cover. Steven misses.

INT. BACKYARD, APRIL'S HOUSE - DAY

June stares in shock at the fight.

INT. BACKYARD, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - DAY

Anthony punches Steven. Steven kicks at Anthony. Anthony spins, kicking, knocking the gun from Steven's hand.

Steven charges, tackling Anthony. Steven's hands go to Anthony's throat. Anthony punches Steven in the gut.

Anthony kicks Steven off him. Steven tackles him, slamming his head on the pool deck. Anthony turns. Steven pummels Anthony, like a man possessed.

Anthony grabs the garden hose and whips the loose end. The brass nozzle hits Steven on the head. Steven is dazed. Anthony knocks Steven off him. Anthony runs for the gun.

Steven leg whips Anthony. He falls. He crawls for the gun. Steven jumps on top of Anthony, also reaching for the Glock.

Anthony grabs the gun. He spins, the gun pointing at Steven's chest. Steven reaches for the gun. Anthony pulls the gun back. Steven grabs it. The trigger is pulled.

The gun fires. Steven is hit in the chest. He looks at Anthony, then looks at the hole in his chest.

Steven drops. His body goes limp. He is dead.

EXT. BACKYARD, APRIL'S HOUSE - DAY

June shrieks with the gunshot and the sight of Steven dropping.

EXT. BACKYARD, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - DAY

Anthony turns, seeing June looking through the fence. He moves to see if Steven is dead. He is. Anthony sighs:

ANTHONY
Goddammit!...Goddammit!

*

Anthony turns to look at June. Tears run down her cheeks as she stares in shock at what just happened.

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
June...?

Anthony sees Steven's phone. He picks it up as he walks over to June. She is too scared to move.

Anthony kneels. Tears run down June's cheeks.

JUNE
Why did you kill that man? Was he a bad man?

ANTHONY
No, he was a good man.

JUNE
Then why did you kill him?

ANTHONY
I had to do it or he would've killed me. Do you understand?

JUNE
(sobbing)
No.

Anthony looks at Steven, then lowers his head:

ANTHONY
Our secret, okay...?

June cries. She is scared. Anthony softly grabs her hand through the fence.

June looks at Anthony, tears streaming down her face. Anthony sighs. He knows he just broke June's heart. June runs into her house.

EXT. BACKYARD, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - LATER - NIGHT

Anthony rolls Steven into an Asian rug. He covers the rug with packing tape. Anthony drags the body across the yard.

INT. GARAGE, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

With great effort Anthony lifts the body into his pickup's bed and snaps down the vinyl cover, concealing the body.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Anthony drives his truck on lonely streets.

EXT. ROCK QUARRY - NIGHT

Anthony backs to the edge of a thirty foot drop off. Anthony gets out of the cab, and flips down the tailgate. Anthony climbs back behind the wheel, and guns the truck into reverse. Anthony stops quickly and the rolled carpet with Steven's body slides silently into the void.

Anthony exits the truck. He looks down into the drop off. His face is bruised, bloodied, but the pain in his eyes is deep.

INT. LIVING ROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Anthony pours himself a tall Vodka. The doorbell rings and he wobbles to open it. Paulie stands there with muscle in the background. Without a word Anthony goes to hall closet pulls out the duffel bag of cash and drops it at his feet.

PAULIE

Good boy.

Anthony closes the door without a word.

INT. LIVING ROOM, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - THE NEXT MORNING

Sunshine comes through the window. Anthony slept on the couch. The vodka bottle on the table is empty.

Anthony's phone buzzes. He looks at it. It is Sergei calling. Anthony doesn't answer.

EXT. BACKYARD, ANTHONY'S HOUSE - LATER - DAY

Anthony walks into the backyard. He looks to the fence to see if June is there. She isn't. Anthony steps over to the spot where he battled Steven. The whole backyard feels empty.

EXT. HEATHER'S HOUSE - LATER - NIGHT

Anthony exits the Challenger. He walks to the front door. He knocks. Heather answers the door. She is shocked to see Anthony's face more bloodied and bruised.

HEATHER
Ohh my God, what happened...?
Are you okay...?

ANTHONY
Fell off my mountain bike.

Heather gives Anthony a hug.

HEATHER
Be careful Tony, jeez.

INT. LIVING ROOM, HEATHER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Heather brings Anthony a vodka as he sits on the couch. He downs it. Heather laughs.

ANTHONY
(somber) *
It feels good to be done. You're
coming to the Bahamas with me,
right? Just quit work, I will have
plenty of money. *

HEATHER
Ah...yeah...maybe, but there is one
complication.

Anthony's mind starts racing, then:

ANTHONY
...There's somebody else?

HEATHER
No, no...well sort of...

ANTHONY *
Sort of? Jesus Heather. Are you
playing me? *

Anthony stands. Heather hides a smirk. She softly brings Anthony back to the couch.

HEATHER
You'll meet him in about thirty
minutes.

ANTHONY

I don't want to meet some...

HEATHER

YOU HAVE A SON! We...have a son!

ANTHONY

What?

HEATHER

I never told you because after I found out what you did, I didn't want you to be the father.

ANTHONY

...But..

HEATHER

I told him you died. But you'll meet him tonight. I came clean with him a week ago but didn't tell him about your work since it's in the past now.

Anthony nods. He doesn't know how to respond, then:

ANTHONY

I can't believe this.

HEATHER

He's really looking forward to meeting you. He's top salesman at his work. Are you angry?

ANTHONY

No, no. I'm happy, it's just a lot to process. How old?

HEATHER

Twenty four. I talked to him yesterday and he said he'd be here at six. I want us to be a family.

ANTHONY

Yeah, me too. Drinks!

HEATHER

Are you happy?...Really?

Anthony smiles. He nods, bringing Heather into a hug:

ANTHONY

Yes, I am. Very happy.

Anthony dances into the kitchen.

HEATHER

It's not like him to be late, I'll call him.

ANTHONY (O.S.)

I'm sure he's fine.

HEATHER

Sweetheart, it's mom. I'm getting a little worried. Where are you?

INT. KITCHEN, HEATHER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Anthony pours Vodka into his glass. He pivots to leave with a grin on his face and notices photos on the refrigerator. Anthony eyes a photo of Heather and Monique hugging.

HEATHER (O.S.)

Find the vodka...?

ANTHONY

Yeah...

CU on Anthony. His face goes from a smile to puzzlement, to confusion, to horror. The glass of vodka falls from his hand, shattering on the floor.

REVEAL a photo on a Mother's Day Card. It is of Heather and Steven with arms around each other.

There are other photos of Steven & Heather.

HEATHER (O.S.)

You okay...?

ANTHONY

Yeah, fine.

Head spinning, weak on his feet Anthony slumps against the kitchen counter. His world now over. He has killed his own son. He wipes the tears from his eyes, takes a deep breath and walks into the living room.

*
*

INT. LIVING ROOM, HEATHER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Anthony heads for the living room, he pauses, dizzy, and with his back to Heather admires the artwork hanging on the walls.

Anthony turns. A tear runs down his cheek:

HEATHER

Wow, this is hitting you hard.

ANTHONY

It's just a lot to...take in.

*

Heather comes up, hugging Anthony. Heather pulls him down on the couch next to her. Anthony stares straight ahead.

HEATHER

Everything will be okay, trust me.

ANTHONY

Yeah.

A cell phone rings on the table. Heather grabs it.

HEATHER

Do you mind, it might be Steven?

ANTHONY

Steven?

HEATHER

Can't believe I didn't tell you his name. Yes, Steven.

Heather eyes the phone. She sees it's "Monique." She answers.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

Hey, yes I told him. The two "men" in my life will finally meet. Yes, I'm excited, of course. No, he's not here yet. Call you tomorrow.

Heather hangs up the cell phone and starts dialing.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

He was really nervous about meeting you. But happy too.

ANTHONY

I'm sure he's fine...

Anthony drinks his vodka. He looks pale, his world crashing.

HEATHER

You're right, of course he is. Arrgh, I'm gonna strangle him when I see him.

Anthony stands, his mind racing:

ANTHONY

I have to go.

HEATHER

Go...?

ANTHONY

I really have to.

Heather is a little shocked but she understands the enormity of this news to Anthony, and is willing to give him time:

HEATHER

I understand. But tomorrow the three of us are getting together. I can't believe him, he so wanted to meet you!

ANTHONY

I know, me too.

Anthony nods. Heather comes to him for a hug.

EXT. HEATHER'S HOUSE - LATER - NIGHT

Anthony walks out. Anthony enters his car.

INT. CHALLENGER - NIGHT

Anthony starts the car. He looks in the rearview mirror. He knows what he must do. This is his life.

EXT. HEATHER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Anthony floors the gas and burns rubber down the street, speeding down city streets, skidding sideways.

INT. CORELLI'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Gorya and Sergei sit in a back booth. Two THUGS sit at a table in front of them.

GORYA

Have you heard from Anton?

SERGEI

He's not picking up. Any word from Steven?

GORYA

I know five is dead.
(shrugs)
Maybe they killed each other?

EXT. CORELLI'S RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Anthony pulls up.

INT. CORELLI'S RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

Anthony strides in. Gorya laughs:

GORYA
Speak of the devil.

Anthony is unusually calm. THUG #1 stands. Sergei has a genuine smile on his face.

SERGEI
It's good to see you.

Anthony stops at the edge of the table. Thug #1 is shadowing him. Anthony glares at Thug #1 as if to say "back off."

ANTHONY
I eliminated target six.

GORYA
Good.

ANTHONY
Steven is dead.

SERGEI
We're happy it's over.

GORYA
We knew you'd take care of this.
Now you don't have to worry about
your little neighbor girl.

He gestures "sit."

SERGEI
Come, have a drink with us.

ANTHONY
I didn't come for that.

GORYA
The money? Anton, it's late, we can
get it tomorrow.

Anthony shakes his head, then:

ANTHONY
Steven was my son.

Sergei is shocked

SERGEI

No, he's not, that's not
possible...

*
*

Gorya smiles.

GORYA

I did. I was wondering if you would
figure it out before you killed
him. It must hurt eh? Can't imagine
Heather will be pleased by this
news.

Anthony glares at Gorya. He is not afraid of what is to come.
There is a beat of silence, then Gorya calls out to Thug #1:

GORYA (CONT'D)

Ivan!

Thug #1 draws his gun.

Anthony grabs a steak knife off the table and backhands it
into Thug #1's chest. Anthony grabs Thug #1's arm as he
falls, and twists his arm, pointing his gun at Thug #2.

Thug #2 jumps up, throwing the table at Anthony. Anthony
fires, missing, then dodges the table. Thug #2 draws his gun.
Anthony pulls the gun from Thug #1's arm, rolls, and fires.

Thug #2 drops, a bullet in his forehead. The CROWD screams.
PATRONS run. WAITERS duck for cover.

Anthony spins with Thug #1's gun.

Sergei and Gorya clumsily try to get their guns from their
jackets as they struggle in the close proximity of the booth.

GORYA (CONT'D)

Kill him!!

Anthony fires, putting a hole in Sergei's head. Gorya fires
at Anthony, nicking him in the shoulder. Anthony drops his
gun. Gorya kicks the table over as he fires at Anthony.

Anthony dives for cover, picking up his gun.

GORYA (CONT'D)

I own you!!! I have owned you for
thirty years, and now I'm done with
you!

Anthony fires into the table. Wood splinters. Gorya ducks
then rises, firing at Anthony. Anthony rolls, firing into the
table again. More splinters. Gorya crouches low:

GORYA (CONT'D)

What do you have now? No son. No wife...!! Your life is meaningless...!!

More bullets slam into the table. Gorya clutches the gun. The gunfire stops. Is Anthony out of bullets?

GORYA (CONT'D)

Are you going to kill me chicken shit?

ANTHONY

I don't kill men...only animals.

Anthony estimates Gorya's head hiding behind the table top and fires. The bullet slams into Gorya's forehead. He walks up and fires again straight down again into his forehead.

A beat. Anthony looks up at the restaurant. He sees the WAITERS and BARTENDERS crouching for cover. Anthony strides out of the restaurant.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. ANTHONY'S CAR - DAY

His son killed by his own hands, losing the love of his life, revenge taken. Nothing left.

Anthony speeds out of town on desert roads, faster and faster with specks of dried blood and bruises covering his face. *

A small photo of Heather stuck in the car dash flutters in the hot desert air flow. *

EXT. HIGH DESERT LONELY ROAD - THE NEXT DAY

Anthony pulls off the roadway onto a dirt turnout overlooking the desert.

Anthony walks to a prominent boulder at the cliff edge and places the photo of Heather on the boulder. Stares at it for a minute, knowing he will never see her again.

Anthony walks to his Challenger. Anthony turns:

A gust of hot desert wind grabs the photo and lifts it up and over the edge as Anthony watches the photo fly away with dried blood on his forehead, lines etched deep in his face.

EXT. HIGH DESERT LONELY ROAD - MOMENTS LATER - DAY

Anthony drives the Challenger towards the horizon, faster and faster with the engine roaring until it's a trail of dust in the distance, sudden it veers from the road, slamming into a rock face exploding in a ball of flames.

FADE TO BLACK.