

TRADE OFF Draft No 3 (29-04-2012)

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INT - LUCA DEVALLE OFFICE IN SPORTS COMPLEX

LUCA AT HIS DESK WITH MIN SITTING IN A
CHAIR ACROSS FROM HIM

luca is handing min a black sports
like bag, yet luca is still holding
the bags handles as if to "not let
go"- his grip is strong - min
senses luca's hold and looks into
lucas eyes as luca begins to speak

LUCA (SPEAKING VERY FIRM AND DIRECT)
you sure you can handle this kid?
these guys you're meeting play
pretty rough.

MIN (LOOKING INTO LUCAS EYES)
i can handle this. i'm not just
anybody. i'm alex's brother liuca,
i've been around.

LUCA
okay okay, save the tough guy act
for the pick up.

luca releases his iron like grip on the bag. min now feeling
the weight of the bag as well as the situation he's gotten
himself into, nods to luca, turns and walks away.

EXT - NIGHTTIME

we see min walking down a rain slicked empty street - as he
crosses the intersection his shadow retreats from the
streetlights above. min steps onto the sidewalk and heads
towards a slightly obscured doorway. as min gets closer to
the doorway a much larger than life and heavily tattooed
doorman steps into his path, extending a beefy hand like a
barricade which stops min from walking further.

DOORMAN
sorry kid, members only

MIN
don't call me kid. see this bag
(min holds out the black bag from
luca) I work for Mr. De Valle. the
tattooed man looks at the bag -
then looks at min - and with a big
grin on his face, turns, opens the
door for min and says. sure ki..I
mean sure buddy, go right in.

INT - DIMLY LITE NIGHTCLUB

min walks through the door and into the nightclub - he is still looking back over his shoulder into the street behind him as the door closes with a resounding CLANG. (the camera follows mins eyes as the door closes and he turns to look at the world he has just entered)with a hard long swallow min looks around the club and sees a long run of tables and booths filled with men and women, dancing, laughing, drinking and smoking. min walks towards the bar in the center of the club. he is suddenly face to face with another heavily built man who looks down at the bag then at mins face.

CHARLES

follow me charles escorts min silently up a stairwell. the room and it's occupants seem to fade away from mins thoughts as he now straightens his posture and sticks out his chest as to ward off the now growing fear inside of him. at the top of the stairwell is a set of heavily ornate double doors. charles open the double doors simultaneously and with an over the top hand wave, motions min inside. min steps inside as charles closes the doors behind them and for the second time tonight min has a dread feeling in his bones as the doors close behind him.

INT OF VIP ROOM

min looks into the room and sees a table in front of him, again there are girls and some men laughing and drinking. they see min standing there holding the bag. one of the men raises a finger to min and very directly calls min over to their table. as min gets closer to the table he sees that two of the men look alike - one whispers to the other ones ear while keeping his eyes on min and the bag in mins hand.min is now close enough to the table to see a cigar filed ashtray, packs of cigarettes, an upside down champagne bottle in a silver ice filled tub. there are lines of cocaine and pills spread all about. mins eyes continue to scan the table. he takes a well hidden DEEP breath when his eyes stop on a MAC 10 weapon on one end of the table. the man who was whispering as min entered sees mins expression.

(CONTINUED)

WHISPERING MAN

hey kid, just leave the bag and get
out of here

(min looks back at him in shock)

WHISPERING MAN

you heard me, drop the bag, we'll
make sure luca gets his stuff

MIN

what,,no.. i can't do that. i'm
supposed to drop off and pick up
the whispering man looks hard at
min while leaning over and into the
light. he puts out his cigarette
and places his hand onto the MAC
10, drumming his fingers along the
magazine towards the trigger.min
swallows hard, his eyes staring
intently at the mans hand on the
weapon. just then the second man
speaks...

SECOND MAN AT TABLE

ha ha, sorry kid, sometimes my
brother here likes to play games.
(second man nods to charles)

SECOND MAN

charles, take our friend lucas bag,
count our money and give,,ahhh
whats your name?

MIN

min

SECOND MAN

give min here, lucas product. is
that okay with you min?

MIN

sure, sure charles takes the bag
from mins slightly reluctant hands.
charles smiles, turns and walks
away from the table and out of the
room through another door while min
gets that dread feeling again. the
whispering man looking at min,
chuckles to himself then speaks.

(CONTINUED)

WHISPERING MAN

come on kid, have a drink, do a line. do ya like coke? we're just gonna count the money, it's all part of the process. min sits at the table while one of the girls pours him a drink. min sips slowly as he watches the party resume as if he wasn't there at all. 10 minutes has passed since charles as he now walks back into the room and hands the bag to one of the brothers (whispering man)the whispering man, impressed with the weight of the bag holds it out to min and speaks.

WHISPERING MAN

here ya go kid, the finest product on the streets.

min takes the bag and satisfied with the weight of it stands and looks at the two brothers who are staring back at him.

MIN

okay, i guess i'll go now, i got what i came for, and in the future, don't call me kid, got it?

SECOND MAN

sure sure. do me a favor okay?

MIN

whats that?

SECOND MAN

tell luca we said it's been a pleasure doing business with HIM

MIN

sure, sure

charles walks in front of min and opens the double doors for him. min walks out of the VIP room and onto the stairwell landing as the doors close behind him. feeling confident and successful min walks down the steps and through the nightclub as if he owns the place. walking out the door onto the street min looks back at the doorman and smiles. he adjusts his grip on the bag and again crosses the intersection and into the shadows

INT SCENE LUCAS OFFICE AT THE SPORTS COMPLEX

luca, min and tim are sitting in lucas office. the bag min brought back from the nightclub is on the floor between mins feet.

LUCA

how did it go min, any problems?

MIN

nope, none at all mr de valle. i told you no one was going to mes with me. i told you i could handle this.

LUCA

so the bag never left your sight, right?

MIN

never mr de valle, see here it is min lifts the bag from the floor and places it on the desk between him and luca. luca looking at the bag pulls it towards him unzips it and looks inside. after what seemed like forever luca looks from the bag to min and then at tim (who is standing directly behind min) min is still processing lucas expression as tim pulls a pistol from his belt and knocks min out with the handle.

FADE TO BLACK

INT. SPORT CENTRE - SWIMMING POOL - LATE NIGHT

We see a large calm swimming pool surrounded by luxurious lounge chairs, sitting in one of the chairs is a very attractive young woman, walking towards the pools edge. The camera follows the young woman as she reaches the edge of the pool, at a profile point on her body the camera starts a slow ascent from her feet to legs to the slim waist to her chest and finally her arms as she raises them above her head. Following her dive as she breaks through the placid plane of the waters surface. She swims underneath as the camera captures her swim stroke while she makes her way across the length of the pool. As she slowly surfaces at the opposite end of the pool, we hear the squeaking of sneakers on the wet tile in front of her, the camera focus's on Luca he has just finished playing squash in the adjoining court,

(CONTINUED)

he is wearing sweatpants and carrying a towel. he reaches out to help her up the poolside ladder. once she is back up onto the tile floor he gallantly wraps the towel around her and begins speaking to her.

LUCA

(speaking like a caring parent
would to a child)

There you go my darling. I am so
happy that you are back here where
you belong. It's good that you've
chosen to put all that foolishness
behind you.

BELLA

(looks up at LUCA with eyes
that say, you are right, yet I
am not happy)

At this moment we see one of LUCA henchmen LUKE(male 30,
heavy build wearing nice suit) enter the pool area.

LUKE

I'm sorry to disturb you Sir.
They're here.

We see BELLA shoot a hard look at LUKE then back at LUCA
with questioning eyes.

LUCA

I'll be there in a moment.

LUCA (CONT'D)

I am sorry sweetheart. I have to go
now. Tonight i will close a chapter
it has been opened for far too
long.

We see Bella's face confused, as she try to understand what
that means. LUCA snugs the towel around her firmly as he
gently kisses her on the top of her head. LUCA then walks
towards LUKE, stopping half way through. He turn to look at
BELLA.

LUCA (CONT'D)

Your ex-boyfriend is here.

INT. SPORT CENTRE - STORAGE AREA - LATE NIGHT

We see ALEX (male, 35 average build, yet toned and muscular) and his best friend RICH (male, 40 large frame) standing in the center of a large empty storage room. ALEX is holding a black canvas bag. We hear the hard steel locks of an unseen door open and close. We see ALEX and RICH turn and look towards that sound. Out of a dimly lite area walking towards them is LUCA, he stops several yards in front of ALEX and RICH. Stepping out from behind LUCA is LUKE. LUKE now stands beside LUCA and opens his dark suit jacket just enough to show a glimmering holstered pistol to ALEX and RICH.

LUCA

Nice to see you again ALEX. How long has it been ?

LUCA is looking at ALEX, waiting for answer. ALEX look back at him in a serious manner, without giving anything away.

ALEX

Not enough. Where is he ?

LUCA

Don't worry... you'll get to see him as soon as you return what has been stolen from me.

ALEX

(speaking sharply and impatiently)
Right here.

We see ALEX toss the canvas bag onto the floor halfway between him and where LUCA is standing.

ALEX

It's all there... Now, where's my brother?

We now see BEN, another of LUCA's henchmen (male 35, similar large and muscular build as RICH) enter the scene quietly and confidently and position himself directly behind ALEX and RICH

LUCA

Okay LUKE, now check the bag and make sure all my money is there.

We see LUKE back away while keeping an eye on ALEX and RICH he bends down to open the canvas bag. He unzips the bag and spends a moment shuffling and re stacking multiple bundles of currency.

(CONTINUED)

LUKE

Looks like it's all here boss.

ALEX

(with demands tone of voice)

MY brother LUCA, I want to see him
now.

LUCA looks sharply at ALEX then looks up towards a steel catwalk overhead and loudly claps his hands twice.

We see a shackled and handcuffed MIN shuffle his way to the catwalk edge. Behind MIN holding a large shimmering knife is TIM (henchman, male, 27 wearing jeans and a t-shirt. TIM is unkempt and disheveled looking) TIM takes MIN to the very edge of the catwalk, giving the idea that he may at any second push MIN over the railing to the concrete floor below. TIM is flipping his knife over and over in his hands with extreme and expert ease. Now in the overhead light we see that MIN has duct tape over his mouth as well as many bruises and cuts on his face. MIN eyes show us both fear and relief as he and ALEX make eye contact.

ALEX

MIN?

ALEX (CONT'D)

(with an angry voice)

What have you done to him?

LUCA

Let me ask you something ALEX...
What would you do if someone stole
3 Million dollars from you?

LUCA (CONT'D)

(now pointing to MIN overhead)

I can't have people who work for me
running around, taking whatever
they wanted.. how does that make me
look, huh? You understand don't you
ALEX?

LUCA at this point turns and starts walking towards a built in bar in the corner of the room, once there, he picks up a bottle and fills a glass with it.

LUCA(CONT'D)

I wanna tell you a story. It was
many many years ago, but I remember
it like it was yesterday. I was on
my way back home, I was all alone.
It was very dark outside. 2 older

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LUCA(CONT'D) (cont'd)
boys jumped out from an alleyway
and blocked my way. One of the them
took a knife from his pocket and
pointed it at me, he told me to
give him all my money. At the time
I only had a few dollars in my
pocket. I refused.

LUCA now pauses for few seconds.

LUCA(CONT'D)
Do you know how it ended ALEX ?

LUCA drinks what's left in the glass (in one long swallow)
then slams his empty glass upside down on the wooden bar
top.

LUCA (CONT'D)
I killed them. I killed them both,
with their own goddamn knife

At this point LUCA looks at ALEX, with a very stern and
serious face.

LUCA (CONT'D)
I was only 12 years old.

LUCA walks toward ALEX. We see him and ALEX face to face,
close enough for ALEX to smell the liquor on LUCA's breath.

LUCA (CONT'D)
(using a slow and deadly tone
of voice)
No one can steal from me, and
expect to survive.

LUCA (CONT'D)
(whispering)

NO ONE!

With ALEX standing inches from his face LUCA snaps his
fingers in TIM's direction. We hear MIN's muffled scream as
TIM plunges his large knife into MIN's back and kicks MIN
over the railing. We see ALEX look up at a falling MIN. He
then runs towards where MIN has landed. RICH tries to follow
ALEX towards MIN's body, but BEN expertly steps in and kicks
his legs out, forcing RICH to his knees, BEN steps over RICH
and levels a gun at his head, RICH is powerless to help
ALEX. Under one of the overhead lights we see ALEX cradle
MIN's broken and still shackled body in his arms. There are
tears in ALEX's eyes as he tears the tape from MIN's mouth.

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MIN is looking up at his older brother and speaks to ALEX through spouts of coughing blood and gasping breaths.

MIN
(speaking weakly)
I'm sorry ALEX, I only wanted to
make you proud of me, instead I
screwed up.

ALEX
Sshh little brother, no words okay.

We see MIN's body convulse, shudder and finally cease to move.

ALEX
(with an angry, firm voice growling
at LUCA)

He was just a kid.

LUCA
(turning his face around, looking
straight to ALEX)
He was a kid who stole from me, I
told you... NO ONE !!!

We see LUCA turn to leave. Standing in his way is a shocked and tearful BELLA. Alex looks up and their eyes meet. BELLA is still staring at ALEX when LUCA forcefully grabs her by the arm and speak to LUKE.

LUCA (CONT'D)
(toward LUKE, whispering)
Kill them both... slowly...
painfully.

BELLA
(as she is pulled by LUCA from
the room)
NO, please, NO LUCA.

We see LUCA with a reluctant BELLA walk through a door and out of the scene. We see LUKE now standing over ALEX with his gun drawn pointed at ALEX's head. TIM is walking down the stairwell from the catwalk. He is cleaning blood from his knife. We see TIM walk out through the same door as LUCA and BELLA. We ALEX's face start to boil with rage as he gently lays MINS head onto the floor. LUKE has started to laugh as he cocks back his weapon and prepares to shoot ALEX. ALEX knowing that it is now or never, reaches up with lightning speed and punches LUKE in his stomach. Causing LUKE to drop his weapon and grab his abdomen in pain. ALEX

(CONTINUED)

gets to his feet while delivering another powerful and accurate blow to LUKE's chin. LUKE staggers backwards and attempts to defend himself, but ALEX is fueled by rage and adrenalin as he proceeds to deliver punch after punch to a now bloodied and stunned LUKE. The scene now moves to RICH, still on his knees. He uses the distraction of ALEX and LUKES fighting to catch BEN off guard. RICH, still on his knees is able to knock BEN off his feet with a low sweeping leg kick. This move lands BEN flat on his back, Ben's gun falls to the floor harmlessly out of reach. RICH then follows with a barrage of swings that take the now stunned BEN by complete surprise. BEN recovers and the two large men square off on each other. RICH throws a solid uppercut to the jaw of BEN but the big man shakes the punch off and delivers a crunching blow to the ribs of RICH. Gasping for air RICH steps away from BEN regains composure and throws a few quick jabs that catch BEN in the face. BEN staggers back and crashes into the bar, knocking over the bottle and glass that LUCA drank from moments ago. RICH sensing that he now has the upper hand closes in on BEN and connects with a powerful roundhouse punch to BEN's temple. BEN looks at RICH and smiles, as RICH comes in for what he feels is the kill, BEN double jabs into Rich's midsection with the skill of a surgeon and forces RICH to his knees again, RICH is trying to get some air back into his lungs. BEN looks over and sees ALEX standing over an unconscious LUKE. With RICH incapacitated at present BEN picks up his gun, slams back the action and starts to walk towards ALEX. BEN raises his weapon at ALEX and we hear a gunshot. ALEX looks up and sees BEN pointing his gun at him, BEN looks down at his chest and we see thick blood start to flow down the front of Ben's shirt. BEN touches the blood looks at ALEX surprisingly and crumbles to his knees in shock. ALEX's eyes follow the large mans frame as he hits the floor. Once BEN has fallen it is then that ALEX sees BELLA holding a smoking gun. ALEX looking at BELLA with gratitude while seeing her pain which is now transparent as she realizes that she has just killed a man.

BELLA

I,I thought he was going to hurt
you.

We see ALEX run over to BELLA and take her in his arms. They hug, then ALEX pulls her back at arms length and starts talking.

ALEX

(SPEAKING SOFTLY)

BELLA are you okay? Where did you
get this gun?

(CONTINUED)

BELLA
(WHISPERING BACK)
LUCA, it's from LUCA's desk

ALEX
(demanding)
Where's LUCA now?

ALEX takes the gun from BELLA's hand. They both go to RICH who is now standing up.

ALEX
You okay? I'm going after LUCA.
I'll be right back.

RICH nods as ALEX leave him and BELLA and disappears through the same door LUCA went through moments earlier.

We see ALEX walking down the hallway towards LUCA's office. As he turns the corner, we see TIM standing against the wall twirling his knife in his hands (the same knife he used to kill MIN)

TIM
Well, well, well, what have we here? Looks like I get to kill two of a kind today huh?

ALEX
(looking at TIM with extreme vengeance in his eyes)

TIM
AWWW come on ALEX don't take it personally, your brother got what he deserved. Now why don't you put down that gun of yours and lets settle this man to man, huh?

ALEX smiles and slowly bends down and places his gun on the hallway floor. TIM takes his knife and stabs in into the wall as the blade wiggles in the wood. TIM and ALEX stare each other down for few seconds, then TIM runs towards a very ready and hungry ALEX. TIM tries to throw a roundhouse kick at Alex's head, ALEX totally prepared, ducks and lands a strong right hand into Tim's groin. TIM takes the hit in stride, twirls and catches ALEX in the midsection with another kick. ALEX grabs at Tim's leg catches it and propels TIM backwards down the hall. ALEX systematically advances on TIM and begins to deliver punch after punch to Tim's face. TIM raises his arms in defense and drives his knee into Alex's chest, causing ALEX to slam back into the wall as TIM then grabs his arms and delivers a head butt to Alex's face.

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TIM steps back smiling and says, "haha ALEX you're just like your weak ass brother, you both can't fight for shit, haha" We see ALEX lick the blood from his mouth with his tongue and stare at TIM angerly. TIM walks confidently to where ALEX is in the hallway and pulls another knife from his pocket, ALEX sees the moves early and steps into TIM's arm as it arcs above him. ALEX grabs Tim's arm and bends it backwards till we hear a bone snapping crack, ALEX then grabs the knife from Tim's dangling hand and with his back still to TIM drives the knife into Tim's stomach and twists. We see Tim's distorted face as he falls to the ground trying desperately to pull his own knife from his body. ALEX turns and looks down at TIM, spits and stomps his foot onto the knife driving it through Tim's body impaling TIM on the floor. TIM stops moving completely as we see ALEX bend over once more to pick up Bella's gun. We see ALEX walk up to Luca's office. ALEX approaches the door and gently pushes it open. The camera follows the slowly opening door till it meets the large profile of LUCA standing with his back to the camera and facing a large painting on the office wall.

ALEX

You son of a bitch LUCA, I gave you your money. You bastard, he was my only family.

LUCA

(with a heavy sigh cautiously begin to speak to to an armed ALEX while still with his back towards ALEX)

Well well, you made it through my men, it looks like you just can't get good help anymore huh?

ALEX is standing there watching LUCA intently as LUCA stares at the painting.

LUCA is still standing with his back to ALEX as he slowly and carefully withdraws a gun from his waist.

LUCA (CONT'D)

You know ALEX, I loved you like a son. When you betrayed me with BELLA, well that, that was too much for me to take.

WE see Luca's gun now fully exposed, his finger is on the trigger. We see LUCA suddenly turn with his weapon raised and pointing towards ALEX. We hear two gunshots. One from LUCA and one from ALEX. ALEX fires as he dives to the floor in one fluent move. We see a round as it leaves Luca's barrel heading towards the diving ALEX. ALEX now lying on

(CONTINUED)

the floor looks over at LUCA and is surprised that LUCA is still standing. ALEX must have missed with his shot. We hear a noise in the doorway behind ALEX, he slowly turns his head in that direction. We now see a mortally wounded BELLA collapsing to the floor in the hallway with a large amount of blood on her chest. We see LUCA looking at his sister as she slides down the wall and plops on the floor in a sitting position. Luca's shaking hand drops his gun in shock realizing that he missed ALEX and has shot BELLA. ALEX jumps to his feet and runs to BELLA. He takes her in his arms and sits behind her with BELLA on the floor in front of him, she is trying to speak as thick blood is oozing from her mouth.

BELLA

(whispering to ALEX)

ALEX, revenge won't bring your
brother back.

ALEX

(whimpering)

Bella...

We see BELLA drift away, ALEX looks into the office where LUCA was just moments ago and the office is empty. The camera closes in on ALEX's hand as his fist clenches and his knuckles turn white. the camera starts on alex and rises up and away as alex and bella are falling further and further away from the shot (FADE OUT)