

INT. BEDROOM- MORNING

Fade in onto a young man, ROMULUS JOHNS, sitting on the floor with his back leaning up against the side of his bed. He is staring, with bloodshot eyes, at a digital alarm clock which reads; 6:29.

The clock turns to 6:30 and begins to beep. Romulus reaches out and turns off the alarm. Romulus stands up and exits his bedroom. He walks through his apartment and into his kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN- CONTINUED

Romulus walks over to a calender hanging on the wall. The calender is for June 1995. The first of June is xed out with black marker. Romulus grabs the black marker which is clipped to the calender and xes out the second of June as well. He then flips back threw May and April which also have all their days xed out. He then comes to March 16th. The box on that day is completely filled in with marker. Just then there is a knock at the door.

ROMULUS

It's open.

The door opens and in walks FATHER BRIAN, a priest in his mid fifties.

FATHER BRIAN

Morning Rommy.

ROMULUS

Morning Brian. What are you doing here at this ungodly hour?

FATHER BRIAN

I'm just on my way to the dojo and

I wanted to stop in and say happy birthday.

Father Brian hands Romulus an envelope.

FATHER BRIAN (CONT'D)  
Happy birthday.

ROMULUS  
You didn't have to get me anything.

FATHER BRIAN  
You say that every year. And every year I say the same thing. We're practically family. So shut up and open it.

Romulus opens the envelope and pulls out a card that reads; Happy 20th Birthday!

Romulus opens the card and pulls out a 50 dollar bill.

ROMULUS  
You sure you could afford this?

FATHER BRIAN  
Don't worry about it. It's from the collection plate.

They both laugh.

ROMULUS  
Well thanks.

FATHER BRIAN  
You're welcome.

Father Brian looks Romulus over.

FATHER BRIAN (CONT'D)  
So, you get any action last night?

ROMULUS

No actually. It was pretty quiet.

FATHER BRIAN

So why you look so damned tired then?

ROMULUS

Well just because there wasn't any action doesn't mean I got any sleep.

FATHER BRIAN

Right. So, you going to your mom's for dinner tonight?

ROMULUS

Sure am. You gonna be there?

FATHER BRIAN

You know I can't resist you mom's cooking. Especially her homemade birthday cake with peanut butter frosting. I can feel my belt getting tighter already. Well I gotta get to the dojo. You plan on making an appearance there anytime soon?

ROMULUS

How bout this weekend I come in and kick the holy shit out of you?

FATHER BRIAN

Looking forward to it. It's been awhile since the holy hand of God laid the smacketh down on you.

Romulus laughs.

ROMULUS

You're such a goof. Now beat it. I

gotta get to work.

FATHER BRIAN  
Alright, see you tonight.

ROMULUS  
Will do.

FATHER BRIAN  
Happy birthday.

ROMULUS  
Thanks.

Father Brian leaves and Romulus shuts the door.

INT. BATHROOM- CONTINUED

Romulus turns the shower on and then takes off his faded Chicago Bears T-shirt, gray sweat pants and boxer shorts and puts them into the hamper. He then looks in the mirror and inspects his sacred heart tattoo that sits in the middle of his well sculpted chest. He then closes the bathroom door so that it is open just a crack. He then gets into the shower and pulls close the shower drape.

Romulus is washing his hair when he hears the hinges of the bathroom door creek. He stops and listens intently. They creek again. Romulus grabs a buck knife from the shower shelf. He then throws open the shower drape.

Sitting there staring at him is an all black German Shepard.

ROMULUS  
Everything OK boy?

The dog lays down on the floor and yawns.

Romulus then closes the drape, puts the knife away and begins to rinse his hair.

Romulus turns the water off, slides open the drape and reaches for a towel that is hanging on a hook. As Romulus dries his body the dog jumps to his feet and runs out of the bathroom.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)  
Blackjack? Blackjack!

Romulus wraps the towel around his waist and grabs the knife from the shower. He exits the bathroom and cautiously wanders through the apartment. He hears Blackjack growling in the living room and walks in.

INT. LIVING ROOM- CONTINUED

Romulus enters the living room and notices Blackjack standing in the middle of the room staring at the balcony door. Romulus walks over and kneels down beside Blackjack. He pets blackjack on his head.

ROMULUS  
Wait here.

Romulus stands and slowly walks over to the door. He opens it slowly and pokes his head out. He looks over the balcony but doesn't see anything. He then looks back at Blackjack. Blackjack is now laying on the floor. Romulus exhales and closes the door and locks it. He then exits the living room and Blackjack gets up and follows him.

EXT. FACTORY PARKING LOT- DAY

Romulus gets out of his brown 1987 Nissan Stanza and with lunch pail in hand heads for the entrance of the T. T. Johnson's Mailing Company.

INT. FACTORY- CONTINUED

Romulus walks up to the clock in station, pulls out his ID card from his wallet and swipes it into the machine. Just as he turns to leave CASEY the middle aged floor manager calls out his name.

CASEY  
Rom! Wait up!

ROMULUS  
What's up Casey?

Casey, accompanied by a super cute blonde haired, blue eyed young woman, rushes up to Romulus.

CASEY  
I need you to do me a favour.

ROMULUS  
Like what?

CASEY  
I was wondering if you could train KELLY here.

ROMULUS  
Why can't you do it?

CASEY  
I'm the floor manager. I got things to do.

ROMULUS  
So why me? Why not Deb? She's been here for like 10 years.

CASEY  
Yeah well because the numbers came in for last month and for the second month in a row you have had

the best production numbers.

ROMULUS  
So do I get more money for training  
her?

CASEY  
No.

ROMULUS  
Then what's in it for me?

Casey leans in close to Romulus.

CASEY  
Look at her man. She's a ten.

Romulus looks Kelly over and shrugs his shoulders.

ROMULUS  
Sure why not.

CASEY  
Good man, good man. Well I'll leave  
you to it.

Casey turns and starts to walk away but then he turns back to  
them.

CASEY (CONT'D)  
Oh, you're on 13 today.

ROMULUS  
Lucky 13.

Romulus reaches out his hand to Kelly.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)  
Romulus.

She reaches out and shakes his hand.

KELLY

Kelly.

Romulus lets go of her hand.

ROMULUS

Follow me.

Romulus and Kelly walk over to machine number 13 where the night sift workers are readying to leave.

INT. MACHINE 13- CONTINUED

ROMULUS

How's she been running?

MACHINE OPERATOR

Well she shut down like six times tonight so, good luck.

The two night shift workers leave and another first shift worker, 50 year old CONNIE, joins Romulus and Kelly.

CONNIE

Oh God, not you again.

ROMULUS

Hello Connie. You ready to do some work today?

CONNIE

No.

ROMULUS

Well don't worry too much. They said this machine has been shitty all night. Plus we got a new girl who'll be running the show a little too.



CONNIE

Good.

Connie leans towards Kelly.

CONNIE (CONT'D)

This guy is a real slave driver.

Kelly smiles.

ROMULUS

Oh come on, I'm not that bad.

CONNIE

Just be sure to help me out if I start getting behind. OK?

ROMULUS

You got it Con.

Hours pass as Romulus shows Kelly how to keep the machine stocked with leaflets as it spits enveloped junk mail out the end onto a conveyor belt for Connie to sort by zip code. During this period Romulus and Kelly talk and joke around and Kelly is often laughing and it is clear she holds Romulus's attention even while Connie is being swamped with envelopes.

KELLY

I have to use the rest room. Is it OK if I sneak away for a few minutes?

ROMULUS

Yeah sure, go ahead.

INT. LADIES' REST ROOM- CONTINUED

Kelly comes out from a stall and approaches the sinks to wash her hands. Standing at the sinks fixing her hair is a woman in her mid 30's, STACEY.

Hi. STACEY

Hi. KELLY

You new? STACEY

Yeah, it's my first day. KELLY

Yeah I see you're training with Romulus. STACEY

Mhm. KELLY

Has he talked to you yet? STACEY

Yeah. He's been talking the whole time. KELLY

Really? STACEY

Yeah, why? KELLY

He hardly ever talks to anyone. Especially chicks. In fact we have a pool going as to whether or not he's queer. STACEY

Really? Why? KELLY

STACEY

Well a few girls have asked him out before and he always turns them down. And not woofers either. Pretty girls. Heck I've even tried to seduce him. Nothing.

KELLY

Humph.

STACEY

Well if he tells you anything let me know. I got twenty bucks on queer.

Stacey leaves. Kelly looks in the mirror and adjusts her cleavage.

KELLY

Well we'll just have to see about that.

INT. MACHINE 13- CONTINUED

Kelly is struggling to keep the machine full of leaflets when a whistle blows. Romulus puts his hand on Kelly's shoulder.

ROMULUS

Break time.

KELLY

Oh thank God.

CONNIE

You can say that again sister.

INT. BREAK ROOM- CONTINUED

Romulus sits alone at a small table in the break room. He is pulling a sandwich out of his lunch pail when Kelly approaches.

KELLY  
You mind if I sit with you?

ROMULUS  
Why?

KELLY  
Why what?

ROMULUS  
Why do you want to sit here?

KELLY  
Cause your the only person I know here.

ROMULUS  
What about Connie?

KELLY  
I've said like two words to her the whole day.

ROMULUS  
Ah yeah, sure.

Kelly sits down at the table. Just then 21 year old twins MARK and CALEB, each sporting shaved heads and cut off sleeves that reveal their black tribal tattoos enter the break room and walk up to Kelly.

MARK  
Hey Kell, whaddaya sittin' here for?

Caleb and Mark stare straight at Romulus.

CALEB

Yeah!

KELLY  
Just having lunch with my new  
friend.

CALEB  
Really.

KELLY  
Mhm.

MARK  
Whatever. Lets go.

The twins stare at Romulus as the leave the table and then  
leave the room.

ROMULUS  
I thought you said you didn't know  
anyone here.

KELLY  
Well I know those guys.  
Unfortunately.

ROMULUS  
Yeah you could say that again.

KELLY  
They really seem to like you.

ROMULUS  
Yeah, and with you sitting here  
with me I'm sure they'll soon be  
inviting me over to their place to  
shave my head and go out gay  
bashing or whatever it is they  
enjoy doing.

KELLY  
So is that why they don't like you?

Because you're gay?

ROMULUS

No. I mean no, they don't not like me because I'm gay. Because I'm not gay.

KELLY

Well maybe that's why they don't like you. Because you're not and maybe they are.

Romulus looks a little confused.

ROMULUS

You mean, together? Like gay incest? Is that even a thing?

KELLY

I don't know. Makes you wonder though.

Romulus ponders the idea of the twins being gay together and he shutters.

Kelly laughs.

ROMULUS

Hey, you know what else I wonder about twins?

KELLY

What?

ROMULUS

If a set of identical twins marries another set of identical twins and they then have kids. Would their kids look alike?

KELLY

Wow, that is a very good question.

I had no idea you were so deep.

ROMULUS

Oh yeah that's me. I'm like the  
ocean baby.

Kelly laughs as other people in the break room start to take  
notice of them and begin whispering about them.

EXT. PARKING LOT- CONTINUED

Romulus and Kelly are walking together towards their cars.  
Kelly stops at a blue 1990 Isuzu pick up truck with a yellow  
roll bar and yellow graphics on it's sides.

KELLY

This is me.

ROMULUS

The pick up?

KELLY

Mhm.

ROMULUS

Nice. I guess you don't have any  
trouble finding it in crowded  
parking lots.

Kelly chuckles.

KELLY

No, not really.

ROMULUS

Well, it was nice working with you  
today. I'll see you on Monday.

Romulus turns to leave.

KELLY

Hey Romulus!

Romulus stops and turns around.

ROMULUS

Yeah?

KELLY

A bunch of us are having a bush party tonight. Would you like to come?

ROMULUS

Oh I don't know.

KELLY

Come on. I can pick you up.

Romulus thinks about it for a few seconds.

ROMULUS

OK. Why not.

KELLY

Cool. Where you live?

ROMULUS

On the corner of 7th and Chestnut.

KELLY

OK. I'll pick you up at nine.

ROMULUS

Alright. See you then.

KELLY

See you then.

ROMULUS

Bye.



KELLY

Bye.

Romulus turns around and begins grinning from ear to ear as he walks away. Kelly too has a delighted look on her face as she gets into her pick up truck.

INT. ROMULUS' BEDROOM- DAY

Romulus, dressed just in his underwear, stands in front of his open closet staring at his clothes.

ROMULUS

What do people wear to bush parties?

Romulus grabs for some clothes.

He then stands in front of his mirror wearing a nice shirt and tie.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

Not bad. But who wears a tie out in the bush?

Romulus begins to take off his tie and steps away from the mirror.

He then steps back in front of the mirror wearing a red flannel shirt.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

Uhg, too redneck.

He begins to unbutton the shirt and steps away from the mirror.

Romulus steps in front of the mirror again wearing a blue short sleeved New York Yankees T-shirt with a white long sleeved shirt underneath.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)  
That'll do pig. That'll do.

INT. KITCHEN- CONTINUED

Romulus opens the door and whistles. Blackjack comes running into the apartment.

Romulus then fills Blackjack's bowl with food and pets him on the head.

ROMULUS  
Guess what boy. Daddy's got a hot date tonight. Wish me luck.

Blackjack barks.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)  
Thanks.

Romulus stands, grabs his Michael Jordan wind breaker from the coat rack and heads out the door. He pokes his head in the door before closing it.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)  
Don't wait up.

Romulus closes the door.

EXT. SMALL TOWN STREET- EVENING

Romulus walks down a small street lined with row homes on both sides. He turns up another street which looks exactly the same as the last one.

Romulus then reaches a set of three row homes. The first two are houses and the third is a church. Romulus walks up onto

the porch of the first house. He knocks on the door twice and then walks in.

INT. MOM'S LIVING ROOM- CONTINUED

Romulus walks in the door and is greeted by a super excited black and tan German Sheppard. Romulus kneels down to greet the dog.

ROMULUS  
Hey Sheba, how are you girl?

Romulus' Mom, 50 year old Alice, walks into the room.

ALICE  
Hey Kiddo.

ROMULUS  
Hey Mom.

Romulus stands up to greet his Mom and they give each other a big hug.

ALICE  
Happy birthday.

ROMULUS  
Thanks.

ALICE  
The big 2-0 eh.

ROMULUS  
Yep. One more year and I'll be able to begin my journey into alcoholism.

ALICE  
Don't you dare. You're too important.

ROMULUS  
Was just a joke Mom.

INT. KITCHEN- CONTINUED

Alice and Romulus enter the kitchen where Father Brian is sitting at the kitchen table.

Father Brian stands up and he and Romulus hug. They then sit down at the table as Alice grabs Romulus' plate and begins to pile food onto it.

FATHER BRIAN  
So how was work today?

ROMULUS  
Work was, work was fantastic actually.

FATHER BRIAN  
Really? Why's that?

ROMULUS  
I met a girl.

Alice sets Romulus' plate in front of him.

ALICE  
A girl? What girl?

ROMULUS  
She's new. It was her first day and I'm training her.

FATHER BRIAN  
Is she cute?

ROMULUS  
Oh yeah. Amazing.

FATHER BRIAN  
Well how bout that Alice. Our  
little man is growing up.

Romulus blushes. Alice continues fixing Father Brian's plate.

FATHER BRIAN (CONT'D)  
So you going to ask her out?

ROMULUS  
Actually she asked me out. She's  
picking me up here in about an  
hour.

Alice sets a full plate of food down in front of Father  
Brian.

ALICE  
So what are you two going to do  
tonight?

ROMULUS  
Ah we're just going to a party.

ALICE  
A party? With lots of people?

ROMULUS  
I suppose so.

ALICE  
You think that's such a wise idea?  
With it being your birthday and  
all.

ROMULUS  
I can take care of myself.

ALICE  
But what about everyone else?

ROMULUS

I can't just spend the rest of my life in hiding Mom. I'm twenty years old and I've never had a close friend. I've never had a girlfriend. The only people I associate with are you two. I'm sick of it. I want to start living.

ALICE

I know Kiddo, I know. I'm just concerned is all. You know your incidents get worse every birthday.

ROMULUS

Well this year nothing has happened. Nothing has happened for months. I think I beat it. For good this time.

ALICE

Well, your birthday's not over yet.

ROMULUS

Brian, you're with me on this right?

FATHER BRIAN

Sorry Rom. I think your Mom has a point. Maybe you should reschedule your date. Take her out tomorrow instead.

ROMULUS

Jesus H. Christ.

ALICE

Watch it young man.

FATHER BRIAN

You know what? How about we just eat and enjoy this beautiful meal.

Romulus scoops up a heaping spoonful of mashed potatoes and stuffs it in his mouth.

ROMULUS  
I'm going on the date.

ALICE  
Fine! Do what you want. See if I care.

Alice starts angrily cutting her meat. Romulus does the same. Father Brian just watches.

FATHER BRIAN  
Ah, good times.

INT. LIVING ROOM- NIGHT

Romulus is putting on his wind breaker and looking out the window for Kelly's truck.

Alice walks up to him.

ALICE  
I wish you would reconsider.

ROMULUS  
Mom. I've had enough of living in the shadows. I want to be normal. Do normal things.

ALICE  
But you're not normal. You have a responsibility.

ROMULUS  
Not tonight I don't.

ALICE

Would you at least take Sheba with you?

ROMULUS

I'm not taking my mother's dog with me on my very first date.

Father Brian enters the living room.

ALICE

It would just make me feel better is all.

Romulus opens the front door and steps out.

ROMULUS

I'll call tomorrow mom.

FATHER BRIAN

Make sure you call me too. I want to hear all the filthy details about your date.

Romulus smiles and then leaves.

EXT. FRONT PORCH- CONTINUED

Romulus sits on a chair on the front porch. Just then Kelly pulls up in her blue and yellow truck.

Romulus stands up and jogs down to the truck. He opens the door and hops in.

INT. PICK UP TRUCK- CONTINUED

KELLY

Hey.



ROMULUS

Hey.

KELLY

So this is where you live?

ROMULUS

No, it's my mom's house. We were having a birthday dinner.

KELLY

Oh it's her birthday?

ROMULUS

No it's mine.

KELLY

What? Today?

ROMULUS

Yep. The big 2-0.

KELLY

Well I'm going to have to give you something.

ROMULUS

Like what?

KELLY

I don't know. I'll think of something.

Kelly winks at Romulus and drives off.

EXT. WOODS-NIGHT

Kelly parks her truck along with other cars behind a little league baseball field.

KELLY

Here we are.

ROMULUS

So this is the bush.

KELLY

This is just the parking spot. The bush is down that path there.

Kelly and Romulus get out of the truck and Kelly locks the doors. They then head off down the path.

ROMULUS

Are there going to be a lot of people here tonight?

KELLY

Probably. There usually is.

ROMULUS

Like how many?

KELLY

Twenty or thirty.

ROMULUS

Wow.

Kelly and Romulus come to a large clearing in the woods where there are about a dozen other people there already. In the middle of the clearing a large fire is burning within a large ring of rocks.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

Cool. You come here a lot?

KELLY

Oh yeah. This is the place to be most nights.

Kelly grabs Romulus by the hand.

KELLY (CONT'D)

Come on.

Kelly leads him to a pick up truck that has a beer keg strapped to the tail gate. Kelly grabs two plastic cups and hands one to Romulus. She then fills hers with beer. Romulus does the same. Just then Kelly's friend, JENNIFER walks up to them. She is holding a small curly haired dog.

JENNIFER

Hey slut.

KELLY

Hey bitch.

The two girls hug.

JENNIFER

Who's this?

KELLY

This is my work buddy, Romulus.

JENNIFER

Hi, I'm Jennifer.

ROMULUS

Hi. Cute dog.

JENNIFER

Thanks, it's my mom's.

ROMULUS

Yeah my mom tried to make me bring her dog with me tonight too.

KELLY

Really?

ROMULUS

Mhm.

Just then the twins Mark and Caleb show up. They both shoulder check Romulus on their way to the beer keg. Romulus spills his beer.

MARK

Watch where you're going.

CALEB

Yeah.

KELLY

What's wrong with you two? Why are you suck dicks?

MARK

What's wrong with us? What's wrong with you?

KELLY

What's that supposed to mean?

MARK

Why'd you bring this jack-off to the party?

JENNIFER

You're the jack-off.

MARK

Oh hey Jennifer. I didn't recognize you standing up.

JENNIFER

Fuck you.

MARK

Yeah you'd like to wouldn't you.

Mark takes a step towards Jennifer. Romulus reaches out with his arm and stops him.

ROMULUS

Relax Mark.

Mark removes Romulus' arm.

MARK

Or what?

CALEB

Yeah, what are you gonna do?

Caleb and Mark get in Romulus's face. Kelly pushes them away.

KELLY

Why don't you two just fuck off!

Mark takes a step towards Kelly.

MARK

Or what?

Romulus reaches out and grabs both Mark and Caleb by the thier throats and pushes them up against the beer keg.

ROMULUS

Or I'm gonna shove your head up his  
ass and turn you into conjoined  
twins.

Mark and Caleb grab Romulus' wrists and try to break free but can't. Romulus squeezes even tighter.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

Am I understood?

The twins just stare at Romulus.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

Say you understand.

MARK

We understand.

ROMULUS

Good.

Romulus releases his grip and turns to the girls.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

Come on, let's have some fun.

Kelly and Jennifer both take Romulus by his arms and they all walk away.

Later on that night the twins glare at Romulus and the girls from across the fire. Kelly and Jennifer are hanging all over Romulus as he talks to them.

JENNIFER

So tell me Romulus. Weren't you afraid Mark and Caleb were going to try to kick your ass?

ROMULUS

Not really. I've been boxing since I was 8 years old. Plus I'm a black belt in karate.

JENNIFER

Wow, impressive.

Kelly clinches tight to Romulus' waist and looks up at him.

KELLY

Very.

Kelly then grabs him by the head and pulls him down to her. They kiss.

JENNIFER

Well, I know how to take a hint.

Jennifer leaves. The twins see Romulus and Kelly kissing and become outraged.

MARK

I think it's time we introduce  
Romeo to our steel toes.

CALEB

Oh hell yeah.

MARK

You go around that way and I'll go  
around this way. We'll meet up at  
him and jump him.

CALEB

He's a dead man.

Jennifer is standing with some other people when her dog  
begins to growl and stare off into the dark woods.

JENNIFER

What is it Poochie?

Poochie wiggles out of Jennifer's arm and runs off towards  
the edge of the clearing.

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

Poochie! Poochie come back here!

Poochie's incessant barking catches Romulus' attention and  
his lips break away from Kelly's.

KELLY

What's wrong?

ROMULUS

I don't know. I'll be right back.  
Stay here.

Romulus walks over to Jennifer who is standing behind Poochie  
trying to coax him back to her.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

What's up with your mom's dog?

JENNIFER  
I don't know. I've never seen him  
like this before.

ROMULUS  
What's his name?

JENNIFER  
Poochie.

Romulus walks over to Poochie and kneels down beside him.

ROMULUS  
What's up Poochie?

Poochie becomes very nervous and begins to whine and yelp.  
Romulus looks back at Jennifer.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)  
I think the party's over.

JENNIFER  
Why? Is it the cops?

ROMULUS  
Ah, yeah. The cops.

Just then off in the woods a young man is peeing by a tree.  
All of a sudden something grabs him and he is pulled into the  
darkness. At the same time Poochie darts off into the woods  
barking crazy.

Jennifer runs after Poochie.

JENNIFER  
Poochie stop!

Romulus stops her from entering the woods.

ROMULUS



You have to go!

JENNIFER

But I can't leave Poochie. My mom will freak out.

ROMULUS

I'll get Poochie. You get Kelly and get out of here. OK?

JENNIFER

OK.

Just then the twins converge on Kelly. Mark grabs her shoulders from behind and begins to rattle her. Romulus begins to enter the darkness.

KELLY

What the hell are you doing!? Leave me alone!

Romulus hears Kelly and turns around. He sees the twins roughing her up and runs to her.

JENNIFER

What about Poochie?

Jennifer looks into the darkness of the woods.

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

Shit!

Jennifer runs into the woods.

Romulus rushes up to Kelly and shoves Caleb to the ground. Mark takes a swing at Romulus but Romulus grabs Mark's fist and twists his arm behind him.

ROMULUS

You need to get to your truck and get out of here.

KELLY

Why?

ROMULUS

The cops are here. You gotta go and  
you gotta go now.

KELLY

What about you?

Romulus tosses Mark to the ground.

ROMULUS

I'll be fine. Just go. Trust me.

Kelly nods and then starts to go.

Just then the fire bursts to five times it's size.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

Run!

Just then the other party goers start getting pulled into the  
woods.

MARK

What the hell's going on!?

ROMULUS

You two need to get out of here and  
quick!

Just then the fire blasts Romulus and sends him flying  
through the air.

CALEB

Jesus.

MARK

Let's get out of here.

The twins and the rest of the people start running for their

cars.

Romulus lifts his head up and is terrified by what he sees. Large black, shadowy figures with glowing red eyes are running around tackling people and killing them by slicing and stabbing them with their huge claws.

Romulus rises to his feet and runs towards one of the figures who has a young man pinned to the ground. Just before it can plunge its claw into the young man, Romulus tackles it and they roll in the dirt for a few feet. Romulus grabs the demonic beast and hurls it back into the darkness. He then turns to the young man still laying on the ground.

ROMULUS

Run!

The young man gets up and runs off.

Just then Romulus gets tackled by a beast. The beast throws Romulus hard up against a tree. The beast rushes Romulus. Romulus pulls up his shirt revealing a leather sheath. Romulus pulls a buck knife from the sheath. As he pulls the knife from the sheath the blade locks into position.

Romulus stabs the beast in the eye. The beast growls in pain and then turns to dust.

Further up the path Kelly reaches her truck. She fumbles through her keys and manages to unlock the door. She gets in and puts the key into the ignition. Just then Jennifer reaches the passenger side. She is bloodied and falls to the ground.

KELLY

Jenn? Jennifer!? Shit!

Kelly gets out of the truck and runs to the other side. She kneels down beside Jennifer.

KELLY (CONT'D)

Jenn? Jenn, are you OK?

Jennifer has blood coming from her mouth.

JENNIFER

Go.

Kelly, now crying, runs back to the driver side. Just then she sees something and screams.

Romulus hears her scream and runs towards her but gets tackled again by a beast. Romulus gets to his feet and the beast rushes him. Romulus spins and kicks the beast in the stomach. He then knees the beast in the face. The beast grabs Romulus and they both struggle. Romulus then stabs the beast in it's rib cage with the buck knife.

The beast growls in pain and then throws Romulus through the air. The beast rushes Romulus again and Romulus hurdles it. The beast spins back to Romulus and Romulus stabs it in it's eye. The beast howls in pain and turns to dust.

Romulus runs towards Kelly again but this time the fire blasts him from behind and sends him crashing to the ground. A beast then grabs Romulus by his feet and swings him like a baseball bat face first into a thick tree.

The beast then drags Romulus' limp body back into the clearing towards the fire. The beast picks a dazed Romulus up over it's head and prepares to throw him into the fire.

Romulus snaps too and grabs a switch blade from an ankle sheath concealed under his pants leg.

Romulus switches open the blade and jams it into the beasts neck. The beast howls and drops Romulus.

The beast then turns and kicks Romulus in the stomach so hard that Romulus lands several feet away. The beast pulls the switch blade from it's neck and deliberately walks towards Romulus. Romulus pulls a throwing star from behind his belt buckle and casts it into the eye of the beast. It howls out and then turns to dust.

Romulus picks up the knife and star and places it back behind his belt buckle. He then looks up the pathway to where Kelly's truck is parked. But before he can take a step in that direction he is pulled back into the darkness of the woods.

Romulus gets the upper hand on this beast and slams it up against a tree. He tries to stab it in the eye but the beast vanishes and Romulus jams the knife deep into the tree.

The beast reappears right next to Romulus and punches him in the face, sending Romulus staggering back with the knife still stuck in the tree.

The beast extends it's claws and takes swipes at Romulus. Romulus ducks and dodges the claws. Romulus then blocks a swing with his left arm and punches the beast in the face with a strong right hook, sending the beast staggering. Romulus then scissor kicks the beast in the chest sending it to the ground. Romulus then reaches under his other pant leg and retrieves another switch blade from another leather sheath. The beast raises to it's feet and attacks Romulus. They battle back and forth blocking blows and barely missing each other with claws and knife.

The beast punches Romulus in the face and sends him flying backwards and up against the tree. Romulus pulls the other knife from the tree and rushes the beast.

They block and swipe at each other at a furious rate. The beast's claws swipe across Romulus' chest, tearing his shirt and drawing blood. Romulus takes a few steps back and inspects the damage.

ROMULUS

Is that the best you can do?

The beast growls and lunges at Romulus. Romulus side steps the beast and stabs it in it's back. The beast howls in pain. The beast growls even louder and it's glowing red eyes become brighter.

The beast lunges again at Romulus but Romulus drops to his knees and thrusts his knives into the mid section of the beast, stopping it in its tracks. He then pulls the knives from its stomach and jumps to his feet, head butting the beast in the face and sending it crashing to the ground.

Romulus then jumps on top of the beast and jams both knives in both of its eyes. The beast then turns to dust.

Romulus emerges from the darkness and takes in the carnage. There are bodies strewn all about the ground.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)  
What have I done?

A beast emerges from the darkness holding Kelly in the air by the back of her neck with one hand.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)  
Put her down!

BEAST  
Or else what?

ROMULUS  
Or else you're dead!

BEAST  
I'm already dead you idiot. After all these years I'd expect you to know that.

ROMULUS  
Then I'll send you back to hell where you belong.

BEAST  
Hmm. Not before her.

The beast crushes Kelly's neck like an empty soda can.

ROMULUS

No!

Romulus charges the beast with knives in hand. The beast tosses Kelly aside and then shoots red strains on electricity from it's claws, stopping Romulus in his tracks.

Romulus screams out in pain and falls to his knees. The beast walks up close to Romulus still pelting him with the electric shocks.

BEAST

How does it feel to watch someone  
you care about die?

ROMULUS

Fuck you!

The beast releases Romulus from the beams of electricity.

BEAST

I just wish you could have seen the  
looks on the faces of all your  
loved ones.

ROMULUS

(Writhing in pain) what do you  
mean?

BEAST

Your mother. The priest. Even their  
pathetic guard dogs.

Romulus slowly makes his way to his knees.

ROMULUS

You piece of shit!

Romulus charges the beast but the beast grabs Romulus and  
throws him through the air. Romulus crashes back first against  
a tree. The beast vanishes and reappears standing over  
Romulus.

The beast picks Romulus up by the face and bashes his head against the tree. The beast leans in close.

BEAST

The boss wants you dead. He wants what was promised to him. I would rather watch you suffer. But, seeing as how I'm not in charge. I guess it's time for you to die.

The beast throws Romulus down hard to the ground. It stomps on Romulus' chest again and again with such force the ground shakes. Romulus gasps for air.

BEAST (CONT'D)

But there is no reason why I can't enjoy myself first.

The beast picks Romulus's limp body from the ground and holds him over his head.

BEAST (CONT'D)

Your mother was a real screamer.

The beast then throws Romulus through the air. Romulus comes crashing down against the side of the pick up truck that houses the beer keg. Romulus sits doubled over on the ground.

The beast slowly walks towards Romulus.

BEAST (CONT'D)

And the priest. Well, let's just say that a life of Godly servitude didn't spare him in any way.

The beast wraps it's huge hand around Romulus' neck and lifts him up so that they are face to face.

BEAST (CONT'D)

Now, you die.



The beast begins to squeeze. Romulus tries desperately to break the beast's hold but can't. Then Romulus reaches for his belt buckle. He pulls the throwing star from his belt and jams it into the beast's shoulder. The beast howls and drops Romulus.

The beast pulls the star from it's shoulder.

BEAST (CONT'D)  
Just die already!

The beast shoots the bolts of red electricity from both hands. Romulus writhes in agony and screams out in pain.

BEAST (CONT'D)  
Now prepare to meet your mother again.

The beast's eyes glow brighter and brighter as the bolts become stronger and stronger.

Romulus screams out even louder. But then, Romulus' eyes turn red. They begin to glow brighter and brighter and Romulus is able to make his way to his feet.

BEAST (CONT'D)  
No! Die!

Romulus then begins to change into another version of the demonic beast. He turns into a larger more powerful version with a strange marking on his chest.

BEAST (CONT'D)  
What is this!?

Romulus reaches out with the palm of his hand facing outwards. The beast's red bolts are being blocked by Romulus' palm. Romulus then sends the bolts directly back at the beast. The beast goes crashing to the ground.

The beast kneels in front of Romulus and bows it's head.

BEAST (CONT'D)

My lord. I am yours to command.

Romulus walks over to the beast and picks it up by it's neck. Romulus then looks the beast in it's glowing red eyes. Romulus then fires a red energy blast out of his eyes, directly into the beast's eyes. The beast explodes into ash.

Romulus then falls to his knees and changes back into his human form.

An exhausted Romulus lay face down on the ground for a few seconds before lifting his head and surveying the area.

He is able to slowly rise to his feet. He walks over to Kelly and kneels beside her.

ROMULUS

I just wanted to have a normal life. I'm sorry.

Romulus rises to his feet again and walks off.

EXT. KELLY'S PICK UP- CONTINUED

Romulus gets into Kelly's truck and finds the key in the ignition. He starts the truck, closes the driver side door and peels out.

EXT. ALICE'S HOUSE- CONTINUED

Romulus pulls up to his mom's house and shuts off the truck. He stares up at the house that has lights on. He gets out of the truck and rushes up the porch and into the house.

INT. LIVING ROOM- CONTINUED

ROMULUS

Mom! Mom!

Romulus moves through the house opening all the closed doors and looking inside. He enters the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN- CONTINUED

Romulus spies Sheba laying motionless on the floor. He approaches her and kneels down beside her.

ROMULUS

Sheba. Hey girl.

Romulus puts his hand on Sheba's stomach. She is not breathing. He stands and rushes upstairs.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

Mom! Mom!

Romulus enters Alice's bedroom

INT. ALICE'S BEDROOM- CONTINUED

Laying there face down in a puddle of blood on the floor is Alice. Romulus rushes to her and turns her over. Her throat is slit.

Romulus sighs and shakes his head. He then leans down and kisses her on the forehead.

Romulus runs out the room and out of the house. He jumps the low fence that separates his mom's porch from the neighbor's. Romulus bursts into the house.

INT. FATHER BRIAN'S HOUSE- CONTINUED

ROMULUS  
Brian! Hello!

Romulus searches the entire downstairs and finds nothing. He then rushes upstairs and finds it in total disarray as if a struggle has happened. Romulus searches for Father Brian and finds him laying motionless on his bed.

INT. FATHER BRIAN'S BEDROOM- CONTINUED

Romulus slowly walks over to the bed. Father Brian is laying there on his back. He has a crucifix jammed into his right eye.

ROMULUS  
Why didn't I listen? Why didn't I  
listen!!

EXT. OUTSIDE ALICE'S HOUSE- CONTINUED

Romulus gets into Kelly's truck, starts it up and drives away. He pulls up to his apartment and turns off the truck. He gets out and rushes into his apartment.

INT. ROMULUS' APARTMENT- CONTINUED

Romulus turns the light on in the kitchen.

ROMULUS  
Blackjack? Blackjack!

Romulus runs through the apartment and finds blackjack hanging from the ceiling fan by his leash. The fan is slowly spinning, turning Blackjack in circles.

Romulus flicks the switch on the wall turning the fan off.

INT. BEDROOM- CONTINUED

Romulus enters his bedroom and turns on the light. He goes into his closet and pulls out an old army duffel bag with the name ROMEO JOHNS stenciled on it.

Romulus throws the bag on his bed and then begins filling it with clothes from his closet and dresser. He then reaches under his bed and pulls out a lock box. He punches the code into the keypad and opens it. He pulls out an old envelope that has the words RUNAWAY MONEY written on it in blue crayon.

Romulus pulls a thick wad of cash out from the envelope. He shoves it into his front pocket. He then snaps shut the duffel bag and throws it over his shoulder.

INT. KITCHEN- CONTINUED

Romulus walks through the kitchen towards the door. He then stops and turns back. He walks over to the calender, takes the black marker and completely fills in the xed June 2nd box. He then puts the calender under his arm and leaves.

EXT. OUTSIDE ROMULUS' APARTMENT- CONTINUED

Romulus throws the duffel bag and calender in the trunk of his car and slams it shut. He then gets into his car, starts it up and drives away. Romulus begins to cry as he drives away.

INT. ROMULUS' CAR- CONTINUED

Romulus sees a sign for the Pennsylvania Turnpike and takes the exit.

Romulus pulls off an exit and stops at a gas station.

EXT. GAS STATION- NIGHT

Romulus fills the gas tank and then goes inside the gas station. On his way out of the station he sees a roadside motel and then checks his watch.

INT. MOTEL OFFICE- CONTINUED

Romulus enters the motel office and walks up to the counter.

CLERK  
Can I help you?

ROMULUS  
I'd like a room for the night.

CLERK  
Sure thing.

The clerk grabs a key off the key board and slaps it down on the counter.

CLERK (CONT'D)  
That'll be 21.50 Please.

Romulus pulls out his huge wad of cash and counts out 22 dollars as the clerk takes notice of the money. He places the money on the counter.

ROMULUS  
Keep the change.

Romulus grabs the key and turns to leave.

CLERK

Check out is at noon.

ROMULUS

Thanks.

Romulus leaves the office and goes and retrieves his duffle bag from the trunk of his car. He then finds his room, number 21, and unlocks the door and enters.

INT. MOTEL ROOM- CONTINUED

Romulus enters the dark room and flips the lights on. The room looks like it was decorated in the seventies. It is dimly lit and has a funky smell to it.

ROMULUS

Well this blows.

Romulus shuts and locks the door, throws his duffel bag on the floor next to the bed and crashes on the bed. He looks at the digital clock on the side table that reads; 12:23 am. He then closes his eyes.

The digital clock now reads; 02:17. The room's door unlocks and swings slowly open, creaking softly.

The clerk pokes his head inside the room and checks to see if Romulus is asleep. He enters the room stepping gingerly. He creeps over to the duffle bag, opens it and riffles through it. Not finding what he is looking for he turns his attention to Romulus' jean pocket.

The clerk crawls over to the bed and waves his hand in front of Romulus' face, making sure he is deep asleep. The clerk then begins to try to pull the wad of cash from Romulus' pocket. Just as the clerk succeeds in pulling out the cash,

Romulus' hand grabs him by the wrist.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)  
What do you think you're doing?

CLERK  
Nothing! I mean, uh, I was just...

ROMULUS  
You were just stealing from me.

Romulus sits up in the bed as the clerk stands up. Romulus is still holding the clerk by the wrist.

CLERK  
Let go of me!

ROMULUS  
No. I want a refund. And I want it now.

CLERK  
Let go of me first.

ROMULUS  
Or what?

The clerk grabs the rotary phone that is sitting on the side table and bashes Romulus in the head with it. Romulus falls over and releases his grasp on the clerk. The clerk then begins to continuously bash Romulus in the head with the phone, opening a large wound in his head.

The clerk then grabs the cash and wipes his prints from the phone. He then looks at a motionless and bloodied Romulus laying on the bed. The clerk then leaves the room, leaving the door wide open. The clock on the table reads; 02:22 am.

The clock now reads; 02:30 am and a soft moan can be heard. Romulus begins to wake.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)



Uh. What?

Romulus sits up in the bed. His open wound is completely healed though his face and hair are covered in blood. Romulus feels his head and looks at the blood on his hand. He then looks at the bloody bed sheet and bloody phone.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

That son of a bitch killed me!

Romulus checks his pocket and realizes the clerk also robbed him.

Romulus looks upwards.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

Are these the kind of people you  
put me here to save?

Romulus shakes his head as he stands up. He grabs his duffel bag, looks through it to see if anything was stolen, and then snaps it shut. Romulus exits the room.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT- CONTINUED

Romulus pops the trunk and throws the bag inside. He then slams the trunk shut and head for the motel office.

INT. MOTEL OFFICE- CONTINUED

Romulus kicks open the office door and walks up to the counter. The clerk is down behind the counter sitting in a chair watching TV.

CLERK

(Without looking up) What can I do  
for you?

ROMULUS

You can give me back my fucking money.

The clerk looks up and panics at the site of Romulus that he falls out of the chair as he tries to scramble. The clerk sits there on the floor in disbelief.

CLERK

Stay back!

ROMULUS

Don't make this any harder than it needs to be.

CLERK

You're not real!

The clerk scrambles to his feet and runs behind a curtain into the back room. Romulus sighs.

ROMULUS

You're making it harder.

Romulus jumps over the counter with ease and heads behind the curtain.

INT. BACK ROOM- CONTINUED

Romulus enters the cluttered back room and looks around.

ROMULUS

Come out, come out wherever you are.

The clerk jumps out from behind some boxes with a samurai sword.

CLERK

Stay back you! I'll cut you from

ear to ear!

ROMULUS

Really? You plan to kill me twice?

Romulus takes a step forward and the clerk takes an over the shoulder hack at Romulus. Romulus lifts his forearm to block the sword. The sword sticks into Romulus' forearm down to the bone. Romulus cringes in pain and then punches the clerk in the face with his free hand. The clerk falls on his back. The sword stays stuck in Romulus' forearm. Romulus removes the sword and then breaks the blade in half and tosses the pieces to the side.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

All I want is my money and I'll leave.

Just then the clerk starts to convulse on the floor. Romulus rushes to the clerk aid.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

Are you OK? Are you OK? What can I do?

The clerk grabs Romulus by the throat and opens his eyes which are glowing red.

CLERK

You could die.

The clerk tosses Romulus across the room. Romulus gets to his feet and he and the clerk stand facing each other from across the room.

ROMULUS

What's going on? What are you doing?

CLERK

I've possessed him you idiot!

ROMULUS

Set him free!

CLERK

No can do. The only way to get rid  
off me is to kill him.

ROMULUS

I can't do that.

The clerk laughs.

CLERK

I know.

The clerk approaches Romulus. They are now standing face to  
face.

CLERK (CONT'D)

Guess that gives me the advantage.

The clerk then pushes Romulus so hard up against the wall  
that the paneling gives. The clerk then tosses Romulus back  
across the other side of the room, crashing through boxes.

Romulus stands up.

ROMULUS

I'm not going to harm him.

CLERK

Well then I guess you lose. Because  
either you kill him or I kill you.

ROMULUS

It's not gonna happen!

CLERK

Well, there is another solution.  
You commit suicide and I promise to  
leave this...

The clerk looks over his out of shape body.

CLERK (CONT'D)  
...temple of health.

ROMULUS  
That's not gonna happen either.

CLERK  
Then I guess I'll just have to kill  
you.

The clerk lunges at Romulus and tackles him. They roll around on the floor and the clerk gets the upper hand. The clerk begins to strangle Romulus. Romulus feels around with his hands for something to use for a weapon. His hand lands on the handle of the broken sword. Romulus grabs it and jams it through the temple of the clerk. The clerk screeches in pain and rolls off of Romulus. Romulus sits up gasping for air.

The clerk stands up and looks at Romulus.

CLERK (CONT'D)  
You killed him.

ROMULUS  
Then how are you still in there?

CLERK  
You killed him. You didn't kill me.

The clerk pulls the broken sword from his head and attacks Romulus. Romulus grabs the other half of the sword and scrambles to his feet while fighting off the clerk.

Romulus and the clerk clang sword halves. Every clang of the swords hurts Romulus more and more as he is holding only blade. The two clang swords and hold them fast together. Blood is pouring from Romulus' hand.

CLERK (CONT'D)  
You ready to die now?

ROMULUS

I already died tonight. Now it's  
your turn.

The clerk takes a hack at Romulus. Romulus lifts his forearm to block the blade. The blade cuts Romulus to the bone. Romulus cries out in pain and then jams his sword blade into the eye of the clerk.

The clerk cries out and then falls limp to the floor. Romulus removes the sword blade from his forearm and tosses it. He then kneels down beside the clerk's lifeless body.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

I'm sorry.

Romulus gets up and begins to leave. He then stops and returns to the clerk. He kneels down again, reaches in the clerk's pockets and takes back his money and also takes the clerk's motel money.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

You won't be needing this.

Romulus leaves.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT- CONTINUED

Romulus starts up his car and drives off.

INT. ROMULUS' CAR- CONTINUED

Romulus is driving down a road when he looks in the rearview mirror and sees a beautiful blond woman, ALVÖR, sitting in the back seat. She is dressed as an ancient Viking warrior.

A startled Romulus pulls off onto the shoulder of the road

and turns back to the woman. But there is no woman. Romulus rattles his head.

ROMULUS  
Now I'm seeing shit.

Romulus turns back around and looks in the mirror again. Again there sits the woman. Romulus spins around again but again, there is no one there.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)  
What the?

Romulus slowly turns back and then quickly back again to see if he could catch the woman. But again there is no woman. Romulus takes a sigh of relief. He then turns again and looks into the mirror again. The woman is there.

ALVÖR  
Don't turn around again.

Romulus turns again and again there is no woman. He then turns back to the mirror.

ALVÖR (CONT'D)  
I can only be seen through reflection.

ROMULUS  
Who are you?

ALVÖR  
My name is Alvör. I'm your guardian angle.

ROMULUS  
My guardian angle.

Romulus turns around.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)  
Are you...

But there is no one there. He turns back to the mirror.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)

Are you crazy?

Alvör

You're seeing angels in your rearview mirror and you ask if I'm crazy.

ROMULUS

OK so, if you're my guardian angel. Tell me, where the hell have you been all my life!?

Alvör

I've been around.

ROMULUS

Oh yea? Doing what?

Alvör

Watching.

ROMULUS

Oh well, I hope you enjoyed the show! Why didn't you ever help me?

Alvör

Because you didn't need it.

ROMULUS

So why are you here now?

Alvör

Because you need it.

ROMULUS

Well in case you missed it lady, I don't need it. Didn't you see me in the bush? Back at the motel? I can



take care of myself.

Alvör  
Really?

ROMULUS  
Yes.

Alvör  
Tell me, have the demons been able to do things they haven't before?

ROMULUS  
Such as?

Alvör  
Such as shooting bolts of electricity from their claws. Or possessing mortals to fight you with.

ROMULUS  
Yeah so?

Alvör  
So, anything they can do. You can do.

ROMULUS  
Really?

Alvör  
Yes. I'm here to help you learn.

ROMULUS  
So you're like my very own Obie Wan Kenobi?

Alvör  
Who?

ROMULUS

Oh God. There's no Star Wars in heaven!?

Alvör  
Star Wars?

ROMULUS  
Never mind.

Alvör  
You should really drive on. You need to put some distance between you and the motel before someone discovers the corpse.

ROMULUS  
Sure.

Romulus puts the car in gear and starts continuing down the road.

Alvör  
You're going to be hunted now.

ROMULUS  
I've always been hunted.

Alvör  
Yes but it won't just be demons hunting you now. The law will be looking for you. They're going to think you killed all those people in the woods. And your mother and the priest.

ROMULUS  
So what do I do?

Alvör  
You don't get caught.

Romulus looks at the road in front of him.

ROMULUS  
Oh that's great advice. You got any  
idea...

Romulus looks back into the mirror but Alvör is gone.

ROMULUS (CONT'D)  
Hello? Alvör? Fan-fucking-tastic.

Romulus refocuses on the road ahead as he drives.

Fade to black.