

Merry-Go-Round

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Final Draft

Made in Highland

FADE IN:

Miami, Florida

1. INT. FLORIDA HOTEL - NOON

An old man, 85, is lying in bed watching TV.

He's got his hair slicked back and is wearing a nice suit with Italian dress shoes.

OLD MAN
Hey... Bri!

Sitting in a chair next to the bed is a woman (21) wearing nurse scrubs with her hair back in a bun. She's on her phone when the old man's growl disrupts her twitter time.

NURSE
I'm right here, what do you need?

OLD MAN
Where the hell is Vinny? He was supposed to be here an hour ago.

NURSE
He's only 5 minutes late.

OLD MAN
Well it might as well be an hour. What, he thinks that just bc I'm an old man I ain't got plans? This new generation just doesn't have any concept of respect. That's what their problem..

Knock Knock

The old man looks to his nurse.

OLD MAN
.. Can you grab the door for me.

NURSE
Of course.

The old man puts on his N95 mask while his nurse opens the door.

OLD MAN
Where the hell do you get off keeping me waiting like this.
(MORE)

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OLD MAN (CONT'D)
You think that old men don't have
lives to live or something?

Just then a young man walks in, he's 35, wearing dress pants, a silk short sleeve button up, and Italian dress shoes. He's got his hair slicked back with gel and meticulously combed.

The young man walks in and stopping in the doorway, standing there with hands in his pockets.

YOUNG MAN
Well ain't that a bitch. It's been
what, 5 years?

Not believing what he's seeing the old man grabs his glasses off the night stand.

OLD MAN
Get outta here. Is that you
Junior?

JUNIOR
Don't look so surprised. If I
didn't know better I'd be
insulted.

Junior walks over to the old man who sits up and happily greets a friendly face.

NURSE
I'll give you two some privacy. If
you need anything give me a shout.

The nurse closes the door as she leaves the room.

Meanwhile the old man turns off the TV while Junior in the other bed.

JUNIOR
You look like shit.

OLD MAN
I see you still got that smart
mouth. That's gonna get you in
trouble one of these days.

JUNIOR
You worry too much old man.

The old man turns to cover a dry cough.

OLD MAN
Seriously though, you alright?

OLD MAN

When you get a cold at my age, it tends to look like the end of the world.

The old man turns to cover a dry cough.

OLD MAN

How's Vinny doing? I always worry about all that power going to his head.

JUNIOR

He's doing good. He's a lot like you, you know? Good at keeping the right people happy. He would've been here but some business came up.

OLD MAN

I get it, he's a good kid. So what're you doing down here? What do you need help with?

JUNIOR

Answers.

OLD MAN

Ask away, anything you need.

JUNIOR

You see, the event I need to know about took place 30 years ago, so your memory might be a little foggy.

The old man sighs.

OLD MAN

No worries, my memory's not what it once was, but I still remember that day like it was yesterday. Who told you?

JUNIOR

Your old buddy Lefty.

OLD MAN

Lefty always did have lose lips.

JUNIOR

Why'd you do it? Why'd you act like our friend, why help us out?

OLD MAN

After everything I'd been through with your dad it was the best way I could think to honor his memory. Besides, you guys have always been family to me. I wasn't gonna leave my family with nothing. No, you guys had lost enough.

JUNIOR

Well you sure know how to make a guy feel like family.

OLD MAN

Aye!..

The old man coughs a painful, phlegm loaded cough and shifts in his bed uncomfortably.

OLD MAN

.. You can't imagine how difficult that was for me. But you know as well as anybody, we have a code.

JUNIOR

What's the code got anything to do with this?

The old man perks up, realizing what's happened.

OLD MAN

You don't know? Your dad was serving a 30 year bid and got released 25 years too soon. I understand why he did it. The day he got sentenced he found out your mom was pregnant with you. But that doesn't change the situation. He turned his back on us. He knew what we'd do. He took men away from their families, stole years away from the lives of good men. He owed them a debt, he owed them the years he stole and there is only 1 way to pay such a debt.

Junior chuckles. The anger he's been concealing finally bubbling to the surface.

JUNIOR

You are a piece of work, you know that? I mean if I were you I wouldn't have been able to look me in the eyes.

(MORE)

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JUNIOR (CONT'D)

But you murdered your best friend,
then turned around and took the
man's place.

OLD MAN

I did what had to be done. If I
didn't do it somebody else
would've and who knows what
would've happened then. By doing
it myself, I made sure that it was
quick and painless.

JUNIOR

Oh painless, you must mean other
than the knife in his back...
Well, you see the sad part is now
you owe me a debt..

Junior takes a pair of gloves out of his pocket, puts them on,
then pulls out a pistol he'd been concealing under his shirt.

JUNIOR

.. and the thing is, there is only
1 way to pay such a debt.

Junior moves to the foot of the old man's bed.

JUNIOR

Turn the TV on and lay back down.

The old man obliges.

OLD MAN

You know, I've hurt a lot of
people in my lifetime. I've made a
lot of bad decisions but I've made
peace with my demons. I just hope
you get the chance to do the same.

JUNIOR

Good for you.

Junior points the gun at the old man and pulls the trigger.

BANG

The nurse comes rushing in to see what's happened.

NURSE

What's the pro..

Junior immediately points the gun at her.

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JUNIOR

..Don't you fucking make me chase
you down.

The nurse is shuddering with fear. She nods her head to
acknowledge that she understands him.

JUNIOR

Good. Come over here. Stand right
here and face the old bastard.

Junior steps to the side and points at the spot he was standing
in.

The nurse walks over.

NURSE

Please, I promise I won't tell
anybody. Nobody's gonna know what
happened.

JUNIOR

Thanks but I'm not worried about
you talking. Are you right handed
or left handed?

NURSE

Right handed.

BANG

The instant Junior pulls the trigger a flash of blinding light
fills the room. Then suddenly it's gone.

We're left with Junior standing over the nurse, blood dripping
from her head. He places the gun in her right hand. He then
stands up, takes the gloves off and calmly saunters out of the
house.

FADE OUT: