

ACT I

Scene 1

A rusted, metal door stands center stage, its thin red coat of paint already worn down.

SPOTLIGHT: SAM (20s), in baggy clothing. He has classic, all American good looks. His eyes are tired.

SAM

I haven't known true fear. Not until I saw his eyes, they were their own hellish galaxies. They left me cold. They left me scared, and uncertain. They left me all but dead at his feet. You're raised from birth to be strong in the face of danger, but you're never raised to have to face the truest evil ever known.

ENTER: ELLIOT and CAREY, both in similar trashy clothes. Elliot (30s), is fresh faced yet worn. He bears a certain optimism. CAREY (30s), is young, cynical, yet spritely. They both snap Sam out of his monologue.

CAREY

And he's in his own world again. Typical.

SAM

Sorry, sorry.

CAREY

Nothin' like those pre-undercover jitters to get you zoning out.

ELLIOT

Oh come off it Carey you were praying in the car.

CAREY

Hey I've got every right to practice my religion on the job. Keeps me safe after all.

ELLIOT

Keeps you from pissing yourself.

They all LAUGH, there's an air of camaraderie between them all. They've been friends for a long time.

CAREY 2.
I'm gonna radio out one last time, make sure they know
we're here.

Carey EXITS.

SAM
What's the time?

ELLIOT
(checking watch)
We've got a few.

SAM
Hey, I'm really sorry about --

ELLIOT
Don't be sorry, it's okay.

SAM
(Scattered)
I know I just --

ELLIOT
Please don't tear yourself up about it, Sam. I
understand.

They PAUSE. Sam is shaking, Elliot looks at him.

ELLIOT
Nervous?

SAM
How could I not be?

ELLIOT
We've all got first times.

SAM
Yeah but you and Carey, you're both so experienced
with all this stuff, I feel like I'm completely out of
my league and inexperienced and --
(BEAT)
Geez I haven't felt like this since I was thirteen.

They both LAUGH. They both LAUGH.

ELLIOT

3.

Just breathe, Sam. If you're ever in danger, you won't be in it alone. You'll have me, and as much as it *totally* sucks you'll have Carey too. We both love you, and we're both here for you.

SAM

Thanks, El.

Carey ENTERS.

CAREY

(LAUGHING)

Get a room already you two.

ELLIOT

(hitting CAREY)

Oh shut up!

Sam awkwardly SHRUGS the comment off.

SAM

When's he expecting us?

CAREY

Right about now.

ELLIOT

Then let's do it.

(turning to Sam)

Ready?

SAM

Let's hope so.

They all stand in front of the door, their backs to the audience.

ELLIOT

I love you, guys.

CAREY

Me too.

Sam looks like he'll say something, but he just bows his head. Carey and Elliot enter the door, Sam holds it open, then turns out to the AUDIENCE one last time.

SAM 4.
For gods sake, we were only kids. We were just boys.

BLACKOUT

*PROJECT: Opening titles as The First Cut is the
Deepest by P.P. Arnold plays.*

Scene 2

*Two chairs are on the side of the stage, a
makeshift CAR. Sam is driving with Elliot in the
passengers seat, they're both in police uniforms.
They are both LAUGHING.*

SAM
I'm sorry no that's just not true!

ELLIOT
Honest to god it happened.

SAM
There's no way!

ELLIOT
Every time I visit my dad he's just blaring some of
the most hardcore rap I've ever heard.

SAM
Your dad?

ELLIOT
Swear on his life.

SAM
The feeble old man?

ELLIOT
He loves the stuff! Wu Tang's his favorite.

SAM
That's insane.

ELLIOT
He knows every word, it makes thanksgiving
interesting.

SAM 5.
My dad can probably recite the entirety of Gypsy word
for word.

ELLIOT
That sounds like the worst thing I've ever heard.

SAM
He loves his Merman. Of course he can listen to Ethel
Merman all day long but the second I want to be her --

*Sam AWKWARDLY LAUGHS this off. Sam AWKWARDLY
LAUGHS this off.*

ELLIOT
Well your father is an interesting man.

SAM
That he is.

The radio CRACKLES. The radio CRACKLES.

RADIO
11-81 on Hansel.

SAM
10-4, on our way.

*They start to drive faster. An AWKWARD
SILENCE. They start to drive faster. An AWKWARD
SILENCE.*

ELLIOT
You okay?

SAM
Huh? Yeah, yeah, I'm good. Sorry I've just been out of
it today, I didn't get much sleep, I had a really
weird dream.

ELLIOT
What was it?

SAM
Well like, you ever have those dreams -- where it
feels like somethings after you? Like somethings right
around the corner, and you're just barely one step
ahead of it?

ELLIOT

6.

Sometimes.

SAM

It was like that, but -- like in those dreams you never have any reason to be scared. Nothing's ever chasing you actually, you just feel this -- this unjustified paranoia you can't shake.

ELLIOT

Sure.

SAM

I can't explain it but I just felt like this huge mass was right behind me. It was like this huge looming statue trying to catch me and crush me.

ELLIOT

Did it get you?

SAM

I don't know. I woke up before it got the chance.

After a CONTEMPLATIVE BEAT.

ELLIOT

Well one time I had a dream that my waist was sinking into a pond, and when I woke up I had pissed the bed.

SAM

How long ago was this?

ELLIOT

Last week.

They both look at each other and LAUGH. LIGHTS DOWN. They both look at each other and LAUGH. LIGHTS DOWN.

LIGHTS UP. Carey and his partner BRYCE are in a similar car on the opposite side of the stage. They drive in silence for a few moments.

BRYCE

Can we stop by some place for food?

CAREY 7.
Yeah sure once were off the clock.

BRYCE
Oh come on man, I'm starving.

CAREY
Did you eat breakfast?

BRYCE
I had a smoothie.

CAREY
Okay so you can eat a real breakfast tomorrow and we won't have this problem.

BRYCE
There's a mini mart literally two minutes from here.

CAREY
And in those two minutes we could miss a stabbing, or a robbery, school shooting, arson, hit and run --

BRYCE
Oh come on man.

CAREY
I'm just bustin' your chops man we'll stop right here.

BRYCE
Thank you so much.

CAREY
Let's just pray nothing goes wrong while we're gone.

BRYCE
You know there's a reason other policemen are on patrol.

CAREY
Technically there are other police "officers" on patrol because there are a number of women on the force.

BRYCE
Oh you know what I meant.

CAREY

8.

Yeah.

BRYCE

I don't get why everyone's so eager to change the names of that stuff. I'm all for women in the workplace but I grew up saying "Policeman" and I can't shake that now. It's so dumb.

CAREY

Well you can have fun telling that to the chief.

BRYCE

Oh ha-ha.

CAREY

Just go get your food.

BRYCE

You're a god-sent.

Bryce EXITS. Carey looks down, contemplating what Bryce just said. LIGHTS DOWN.

Scene 3:

CHIEF JESSICA MARONE stands in spotlight at a bulletin board, center stage. The board has intricate lines of yarn connecting various pictures.

CHIEF

We have no secondary or tertiary suspects. We have one lead who is most likely lying to us. We have no possible motives. The only description of the scene was as follows. The lighting was dim, the smoke and haze was thick. The room pulsed with a neon glow that emphasized each drum beat. The screams, blood curdling, of a woman were heard by the red door at the right of the club. No one knows of what or why, but we know who was at the helm of them.

She points to a barely visible portrait of a DISTURBED MAN on the board.

CHIEF

9.

Calvin Durant. Mr. Durant has been operating in this club for what we believe to be four years now. He was seen leaving the red door three minutes after the scream. This is the only evidence against him, and it's all we need for a complete search mission. The team has already been selected for a forced, possibly violent entry.

Sam steps into an adjacent spotlight.

SAM

How long has Durant been a possible threat?

CHIEF

The man's an enigma. We tried to search for past misdemeanors but no results.

Carey steps into the same spotlight.

CAREY

When was he last spotted?

CHIEF

The last picture was dated back to March, three years ago.

CAREY

And on what charges?

CHIEF

We've had our eye on him for months now and from what we gather he's a dangerous character.

CAREY

He could just be antisocial.

SAM

Well there was the scream.

CHIEF

Exactly. Suspicious activity.

CAREY

Still is this really enough to forcibly enter?

CHIEF 10.
If you would rather enter peacefully you may be my guest.

Elliot enters into the same spotlight.

ELLIOT
Lay off it, Carey.

CAREY
I'm just trying to make sure we're actually being just here.

CHIEF
If he's as dangerous as he seems, then this will be more than just.

Bryce steps into the spotlight.

BRYCE
Who's on the team going in?

CHIEF
We've got Kodine, Chandler, and Robbins.

BRYCE
You can't be serious.

CHIEF
They're the most qualified for this type of operation.

BRYCE
Is there an extra spot at least?!

CHIEF
Bryce, sit down.

BRYCE
You just gotta give me some kind of chance!

ELLIOT
Bryce you've had plenary of chances.

CAREY
(affectionately but stern)
Yeah just sit down.

BRYCE 11.

I can't just sit down forever!

CHIEF

But you will do it now!

A long silence.

CHIEF

Gentlemen, this meeting is adjourned. Thank you for your time.

BRYCE

When is this taking place?

CHIEF

Tomorrow night. Now please, return to your stations.

LIGHTS DOWN.

Scene 4

LIGHTS UP. Sam is on a bed stage right. He wakes up, and makes his way over to the door. He STOPS, HEARS SOMETHING. He TURNS to the AUDIENCE, excited.

SAM

Ever since high school, i always kept my head up, looking forward to the day when all the pain, all the misery, and torment, would finally begin to pay off. I spent every day wondering when things were finally going to turn in my favor. It's mornings like these where I realize how lucky I am to be tolerated. It's mornings like this, when I can wake up, and hear my special someone already awake, cooking bacon for me.

ELLIOT ENTERS holding a plate of bacon.

ELLIOT

Well look who's up! Finally.

SAM

Oh come one you know I'm a late sleeper.

ELLIOT 12.

And I'm an early riser.

SAM
And I like when you cook me breakfast.

ELLIOT
Match made in heaven!

*Elliot moves in to KISS Sam, but Sam pulls away,
winking, and taking a piece of bacon.*

ELLIOT
How is it this time? The consistency more on par with
your standards?

SAM
Not too crispy, not too chewy.

ELLIOT
Better than last time?

SAM
(mockingly)
We don't discuss *last time*.

ELLIOT
It wasn't that bad!

SAM
The neighbors thought we burned to death.

ELLIOT
Oh please our neighbors are so old they can't even
tell their cat is dead.

SAM
The cat that you hit?

ELLIOT
Now *that* is irrelevant.

Sam lays back down on the bed, eating his bacon.

SAM
Do we have to go to work today?

ELLIOT 13.

Well it is a Tuesday, so yes.

SAM

No but I mean do we like have to?!

ELLIOT

You might not but I would like to keep my job.

SAM

Tell them I have a migraine.

ELLIOT

That doesn't work for police officers.

SAM

Tell them I have Ebola.

ELLIOT

Alright time to get up.

Elliot leans down to try and pull Sam out of bed.

SAM

No, stop it.

They're both LAUGHING. Elliot looks Sam in the face, and KISSES him on the nose.

ELLIOT

Come on, love, get dressed.

Sam STOPS LAUGHING, he CLEARS HIS THROAT, awkward. He starts to get up, Elliot realizes he said something wrong.

SAM

Which car are you taking today?

ELLIOT

We could just take the same car for a change.

SAM

No, that would be too suspicious.

ELLIOT 14.

We would just be carpooling!

SAM

I don't want to risk anybody finding out, we would lose our jobs and --

He PAUSES.

ELLIOT

And?

SAM

Not -- nothing. I have to get changed.

Sam EXITS

*Elliot THINKS, looking down, ANNOYED and ASHAMED.
LIGHTS DOWN.*

LIGHTS UP, Carey and his WIFE ANGELICA are in their kitchen stage right. Carey is getting changed.

CAREY

And you are taking the kids to school correct?

ANGELICA

Yes!

CAREY

Okay, good. Anything going on tonight?

ANGELICA

I'm meeting with Mrs. Oaglebee to discuss renovations for the church.

CAREY

Oh, good!

Carey walks across the room to a toaster, and takes out the toast. He's still getting changed.

CAREY

And I packed their lunches last night so they'll be good to go.

Carey brings the toast over to his wife, then STOPS HIMSELF.

CAREY 15.

Right! Strawberry jam.

Carey walks back over to the cupboard and begins to spread jam on the toast.

ANGELICA

You know, I can make breakfast myself.

CAREY

But why would I bother you to do that when you've got so much on your plate?

He gives her the toast. She SMILES, lovingly.

ANGELICA

Thank you.

CAREY

My pleasure.

ANGELICA

We should vacation sometime.

CAREY

I agree! Where to?

ANGELICA

We could go to a beach somewhere, some kind of resort.

CAREY

Once my schedule frees up a little bit I'll look around for something!

ANGELICA

I'll start looking for a sitter today!

CAREY

Oh, you don't want the kids to come with us?

She stands up, face to face with him.

ANGELICA

I figured this could be some time for us!

CAREY 16.
Are you sure? It would have to be pretty short, I
don't want the kids to be alone for long.

ANGELICA
Anytime at all would be enough for me.

They KISS.

CAREY
I have to get going, I love you so much.

ANGELICA
I love you too! Have a good day!

CAREY
You too!

Carey EXITS. LIGHTS DOWN.

Scene 5

*Lights come up on Carey and Bryce in an office.
Bryce is packing up a desk*

BRYCE
Reassigned. I ask for a little confidence, and I get
reassigned.

CAREY
You're lucky you didn't get *Fired*.

BRYCE
I haven't gotten respect around here since day 1! All
I ask is that I, a highly trained police officer, am
trusted to do my job.

CAREY
And you might get that, if you didn't jump head first
into situations before considering your limitations.

BRYCE
I just want to show everyone that I'm not a screw-up.
Just want a chance to feel like I mean something.

CAREY

17.

And you can do that. But not when people's lives are at stake.

BRYCE

Oh, yet another philosophy lesson from Carey! Tell me again how getting everything you want without effort makes you an authority on right and wrong?

CAREY

Watch it...

BRYCE

(Regretful)

I'm sorry. But you can't understand what it's like to have all your chances thrown back into your face.

CAREY

I'm not thrilled about this either. With you gone, I'm getting stuck with Elliot Willis and his new man servant.

BRYCE

(Laughs)

Ha, yeah those two are weird. Never seen two dudes be that close in such a short amount a time. I'd call 'em strange.

CAREY

Yeah, well I'd call 'em fa-

Carey stops himself. Bryce looks somewhat disappointingly at Carey.

Er, never mind. Look, I'll see you later. I'm gonna head home

BRYCE

Yeah.

Carey exits. Bryce finishes packing up. He gets up to leave when his radio goes off. At first it's static with a couple of recognizable words.

RADIO

This is... Chandler... Kodine...dead...blood bath...send help...

Bryce picks up his radio and tunes it to find the right frequency.

BRYCE 18.

3-57, this is Bryce. Please repeat.

RADIO

This is detectives Kodine and Chandler. The Cartel has opened fire on us! Robbins is dead! They saw his badge! All units available please send help!

BRYCE

Bryce here. I'm on my way!

He runs off. Lights fade out.

Scene 6

Inside the lieutenant's office. Elliot and Sam enter. Lieutenant is sitting at his desk.

LIEUTENANT

Ah, the fresh meat and the old scraps. Good to see you too were able to get my message

SAM

Yes, Sir.

LIEUTENANT

Tell me, Davidson, how are you liking being a detective?

SAM

Well, I can certainly say it's nice not to have to dress like a milkman.

Sam and Elliot both laugh. Lieutenant is unphased. Sam and Elliot both laugh. Lieutenant is unphased.

LIEUTENANT

Willis, how is the chief's young prodigy progressing?

ELLIOT

Ah, he sucks as a detective, but I never seen a guy run faster to get me coffee!

They both laugh again. They both laugh again.

LIEUTENANT

19.

This is exactly why I didn't want you two working together! What with your lack of experience and your inability to take things seriously. What do you two plan to do when you're dealing with dangerous criminals and you can't stop laughing?

They both pause. Elliot and Sam look at each other. They both pause. Elliot and Sam look at each other.

ELLIOT

Get them in on the joke

They both break into hysterical laughter. The lieutenant. Is visibly getting madder. They both break into hysterical laughter. The lieutenant. Is visibly getting madder.

LIEUTENANT

That's why I'm assigning you two a new partner

He motions off stage. Carey enters. He motions off stage. Carey enters.

LIEUTENANT

I've been told you two know detective Carey James.
He's gonna keep you two in line.

Sam and Elliot walk around Carey inspecting him. Sam and Elliot walk around Carey inspecting him.

ELLIOT

So Elliot and Samstello become the Three Stooges.

SAM

But the question is, will this guy be a Curly, or a Shemp?

CAREY

What are you two talking about?

*Carey and Sam look at each other, disappointed
Carey and Sam look at each other, disappointed*

Shemp.

LIEUTENANT

20.

Show a little respect! James is a Graduate of honors from the academy, earned multiple commendations for his excellence in police work...

SAM

Bet his mom's so proud!

The lieutenant starts shouting The lieutenant starts shouting

LIEUTENANT

You two better shape up or you won't be partners anymore!

Their smiles fade quickly. They now have a very serious tone. Their smiles fade quickly. They now have a very serious tone.

ELLIOT

Right. No problem.

LIEUTENANT

Glad we could come to an agreement. Now, you'll start work on the drug crime ring surrounding the city next week. Your assignments will be posted daily. For now I suggest you get to know each other.

Lights fade out.

Scene 7

The three cops are entering a bar. Elliot and Sam are continuing a conversation. Carey is following behind

SAM

Blank

ELLIOT

Blank

SAM

Blank

CAREY 21.
Is this really what I'm gonna have to deal with
working with you two? Do you ever shut up?

ELLIOT
Hey, come on now. If we shut up, this golden voice
would be wasted.

Points to Sam

ELLIOT
(Singing)
And would I do anything at all!

SAM
Yes I would do anything at all!

BOTH
I would do anything at all, but I won't do that!

CAREY
Wonderful, now could we please take something
seriously for a change?

SAM
Fine. What is it, Carey

CAREY
We're gonna be working together, but let me make it
clear: I am not your friend. I am not here for your
entertainment. I am here to do my job and that's it.

ELLIOT
Not our friend? But we already made you a
commemorative sweater!

The two erupt in laughter

CAREY
(Shouting)
Is this how you get your kicks? You take potential for
good cops

points to Sam
And ruin it? If your little comedy act continues, you
could get him killed.

SAM 22.

I can handle myself, thanks.

ELLIOT

Yeah, Carey. He's a good kid.

CAREY

I know. That's why I don't want you filling his head with your lack of responsibility...among other things...

Elliot's smile fades. He looks angry now.

ELLIOT

What is that supposed to mean?

CAREY

You know exactly what I mean.

ELLIOT

Do I? Mind explaining?

CAREY

I know about you. What you do. You say you're a good man, but you're nothing more than a dirty, blasphemous-

Elliot raises a fist. Sam comes in between them.

SAM

Guys, come on. We don't need to be like this. We have disagreements, sure. But we have to work together. Let's just have a drink, please.

Elliot puts his fist down.

CAREY

I'm...sorry. That was out of line.

ELLIOT

It's alright.

SAM

See? Now, let's do what we we're born to do! Bartender-

Lights fade for a short time. Then come back up. The boys are now a little tipsy.

ELLIOT 23.
Last time I seen a guy run that fast was when a Cuban
drug Lord was caught with 50 kilos of cocaine!

All three laugh. Carey takes a drink.

CAREY
Ah man. That's great. You guys are alright.

ELLIOT
Not bad yourself, Carey.

SAM
See, this is how it's done. A couple of guys having a
few drinks together. Nothing better.

ELLIOT
Yeah. Hey, guys, I gotta go. I'll see you guys
tomorrow.

SAM
Yeah, me too. See ya, CAREY.

CAREY
See ya!

Sam and Elliot begin to walk off stage together.

ELLIOT
Carey's not a bad a guy, when he's not telling you how
wrong you are.

SAM
(Laughs)
Yeah. He's something. I'm gonna head home. You good?

ELLIOT
Yeah, but I'd be even better if we could-

SAM
No!

*Sam realizes how loud he was. Luckily, no one
notices. He continues in a whisper*
Not tonight, okay? Could you just head back to your
apartment tonight?

ELLIOT 24.
I haven't been there in months! Come on, why are you being like this.

SAM
I-It's Carey, alright?

ELLIOT
Carey?

SAM
Now that we're working together, he could find out...easy.

ELLIOT
Your point? We've worked with other people before, you were never worried about them.

SAM
He's different. Other guys probably wouldn't say anything to command. But you know how he is...

ELLIOT
(Laughs)
Oh, come on! You're getting scared over nothing! He would never find out. Let's just go.

SAM
We're walking a thin line as it is. I just don't want to risk it, okay?

Elliot is clearly upset, but he understands. He pats Sam on the shoulder.

ELLIOT
Okay. I'll see you tomorrow.

He begins to leave

SAM
Wait...

Elliot stops. Sam hesitates. Elliot looks expectant.
Have a good night.

ELLIOT

25.

(Chuckles)

One of these days, Sam. You'll say it.

*He exits. Sam stays for a few seconds, sighs.
then exits. Carey remains. Then, his radio goes
off.*

CAREY

This is detective James, go ahead.

CHEIF

(Through the radio)

James, it's the chief.

CAREY

Oh, good evening ma'am. I'm happy to report my new
partners and I are-

CHEIF

That's not what I called about. Listen, there was a
problem at the night club. We had to send in backup.
None of the detectives survived. The backup...he's
here but...

CAREY

Who was dumb enough to run into the night club alone?

CHEIF

...You're not gonna like it...

Lights fade out.

Scene 8

*Carey and the chief are sitting at a small table.
Bryce is sitting at another table on the other
side of the stage, shivering. We cannot see his
face because he has a shock blanket over his
head.*

CAREY

How did he get back?

CHIEF

He crawled into the station a few hours ago. We tried
talking to him, but he's delusional, screaming
nonsense. We don't know what to do, but we figured you
might be able to get through to him.

At this point, Elliot and Sam rush in.26.

ELLIOT

We got your message. What's going on?

CHIEF

It's detective Bryce. He's just returned from the Nightclub.

SAM

Nightclub? I thought he wasn't supposed to go there?

CHIEF

He wasn't, but the three who went in were compromised. He went in to see if he could get them out, but... well...something happened in there. He's lucky to be alive

ELLIOT

Okay, but what does that have to do with us.

CHIEF

You three are the closest to Bryce. No one has been able to get through to him. We've been trying for hours, but he doesn't even seem to know we're here. We thought that maybe you guys could get through to him.

ELLIOT

Alright, let's give it shot.

The three walk over to the table where Bryce is sitting.

CAREY

Bryce, it's us. Can you hear me?

Bryce is hysterical.

BRYCE

Chicago PD! Put your hands where I can see them.

SAM

No, Bryce, it's us. Carey, Elliot, and Sam. Do you know where you are?

BRYCE

27.

You're under arrest for possession of an illegal substance and the second degree murder of a Chicago Police Officer!

CAREY

This isn't working.

ELLIOT

Maybe we need to get to the point

(In a stern voice)

Bryce, what did you see in the Night Club?

Bryce then appears to somewhat snap into reality.

BRYCE

Blood! Blood everywhere! No, please don't kill me! Robbins, dead! No, please stop! Koddine, dead! What are you gonna do to me? Chandler, dead! The boiler room! The boiler room! The boiler room...

CAREY

Bryce, what's in the boiler room?

BRYCE

Don't tell Carey! Don't tell Carey! Don't..Carey! Don't...

He passes out.

ELLIOT

This isn't good.

CAREY

Let's go tell the Chief.

They return to the chief's desk.

ELLIOT

I'm sorry, ma'am. We don't have anything.

CHIEF

(Sighs)

I was afraid of that. In that case...

The lieutenant enters

LIEUTENANT

28.

You wanted to see me, Chief?

CHIEF

Ah, yes. Lieutenant, I need you to brief these three for an undercover mission into the Durant Night Club.

ELLIOT, SAM, AND CAREY

What?

LIEUTENANT

Chief, these three are not ready for that kind of work.

CHIEF

That decision is not up to you. You will do as I say.

LIEUTENANT

But Willis has no ability to take anything seriously! Davidson is so inexperienced!

CHIEF

Well, since our three best were just killed by the criminals, we're low on options. Besides, Carey has been making progress with both of them. They're ready.

SAM

Chief, why are we going in there again at all?

ELLIOT

Yeah, we have evidence that these criminals are dangerous, why aren't we sending in the S.W.A.T team?

CHIEF

There's evidence of hostages in the building. Our first priority is to get them out.

CAREY

But the Lieutenant may be right, Chief. These two aren't ready.

CHIEF

So you're saying you haven't been able to get them in shape? You haven't done your job?

CAREY

29.

Well...

CHIEF

That's what I thought.

Turns to the lieutenant

I expect them briefed and ready by Tuesday next week.

LIEUTENANT

(Reluctantly)

Yes, ma'am.

Lights down.

Scene 9

*Back in the bar from before. The three detectives
are now very drunk, singing a song*

ELLIOT, SAM, AND CAREY

(Sung)

And to the Brothers we lost before,

We raise our glasses High!

And for tomorrow, we're filled with sorrow,

Just me and you and I!

And when we fight the gallant fight,

We raise 'em to the sky!

For 'til the end, we will defend,

Just me and you and I!

And if lose our lives today,

On angel wings we'll fly!

Like you, my brother, there is no other,

Just me and you and I!

CAREY 30.
Oh, man! Tomorrows the big day! Off to adventure!

He falls over. All three laugh.

ELLIOT
Oh man, Carey! I think you've had a few too many!

Carey gets up.

CAREY
No! I just...

He falls down again. They all laugh.

SAM
Aw man. You guys are the best friends I got!

Angelica enters

ANGELICA
Carey! What's going on? Why didn't you come home?

CAREY
Hey, baby! Sorry, we just went out for a few and, well...

SAM
A few turned into two six-packs of Steele Reserve!

ANGELICA
I've been worried sick! You could've been dead!

CAREY
Honey, I could be dead anyday

The three laugh

ANGELICA
This is funny to you? The fact that you could leave your wife and two kids on their own any day, and you decide to spend your time getting wasted with these two idiots!

SAM
Ma'am! We prefer the term "Good Decision Making Impaired!"

Elliot and Sam both laugh. Carey Chuckles.

ANGELICA

31.

We are gonna have a discussion about this when we get home.

Carey is now getting angry

CAREY

Well, then. Why don't we have a discussion about all those "church meetings" you've been having?

This strikes a chord with Angelica, but she tries to hide it

ANGELICA

What's that supposed to mean?

CAREY

Don't play dumb with me! I know exactly where you've been going!

ANGELICA

I have no idea what you're talking about!

CAREY

Bryan! Does that name mean anything to you?

ANGELICA

I...I..

CAREY

Let's talk about you going to his house every night, doing God knows what! You want to talk about responsibility towards the kids? You have no right!

ANGELICA

You're a monster!

Angelica storms off

SAM

Carey, I...

CAREY

Ah, don't worry about it, bud. We've been through this before.

ELLIOT

32.

Really?

CAREY

Yeah, she gets like that. All you need to worry about is tomorrow. I want to see you guys bright and early. Get a good rest tonight, you're gonna need it. I'm gonna go deal with her now. See ya tomorrow morning!

Carey exits. Elliot and Sam look at each other, shrug, and continue singing

ELLIOT AND SAM

We know not if we'll make it back

Or if we both should die!

But matters not, we always got

Just me...

They slow down and get closer
And you...

They kiss

ELLIOT

I love you...

Sam quickly escapes his grasp

SAM

No! Not now! Not here!

ELLIOT

Wha-What?

SAM

I'm not ready! Not ready for this! God! God!

He runs out

ELLIOT

Sam! Sam!

Lights out.

Scene 10

33.

Back in the original room with the rusty metal door. Spotlight on Sam. Elliot and Carey are there but frozen.

SAM

It's not like I didn't want to say it back. But I wasn't sure if I could say it back. And even if I did, would it mean anything? Everybody has their little excursions, but, to commit to something like that? What comes next? Living together? Marriage? Not that I don't want that but...I would also like to one day speak to my dad again...my dad. I guess it all comes back to him. The day I told him, I thought I would never sleep in my bed again. The way he screamed...If he saw us now...would he accept me?

Lights come up on Carey and Elliot.

CAREY

Hello, Earth to Sam!

ELLIOT

Come on, now. We gotta get moving.

SAM

Sorry, lost again.

CAREY

Save it, we've got limited time, here. We'll go in one by one. I'll go first, Elliot come in five minutes after me, Sam five minutes after him. Are we ready?

ELLIOT AND SAM

Hell yeah!

CAREY

Alright, here we go

he goes through the door, exits

ELLIOT

Off into the brave blue yonder, that one.

SAM

34.

Yep. Hey

Puts hand on Elliot's soldier

About last...

ELLIOT

Forget it, Sam. We both had too many, I over stepped my boundaries. I should be the one apologizing.

SAM

No, I over reacted. I'm sorry I just...this is all new and...

ELLIOT

Hey, this isn't easy for anyone, especially the way your dad treated you.

SAM

How did you-

ELLIOT

It's not hard to tell. The way you never talk about him in detail, all your memories are from before the age of thirteen. Not uncommon, given the way our dads were raised.

SAM

Well, yeah. "No queers or sissies in our house!"

ELLIOT

(Laughs)

Yeah. Look, maybe we should stop this for a little while. After we're done with this job, we'll sit down and talk about what we want to do.

SAM

You're probably right, as usual.

ELLIOT

Guilty as charged.

SAM

But I feel like there's something I've keeping from you. Something I've wanted to share with you, but I don't even know what it is. Does that make me crazy?

ELLIOT

35.

Completely Mental.

They both laugh. Elliot looks at his watch.
Well, that's my que. I'll see you in about five minutes.

SAM

(In a Shakespeare tone)
Fair thee well, time weathered Companion!

ELLIOT

Yea, verily!

Elliot exits. Sam waits a few seconds
...I love you too...

Black out.

ACT 2

36.

Scene 11

Now inside the Night Club, the three detectives enter into an office like room. There are a few goons around the room, one standing in front of a desk looking important.

CAREY

Now remember, be cool. Make yourself sound tuff!

ELLIOT

You're tearing me apart, Lisa!

CAREY

Stop it! Let's get serious here!

They walk into the office

CAREY

(In New York Accent)

Hey, uh, how you doing.

The guy at the desk stands up straight

HEAD THUG

Who are you?

CAREY

Eh, we're from 5th street gang. Heard you guys was in need of some new muscle.

HEAD THUG

I don't know what you're talking about! This is a private club!

CAREY

Hey, c'mon. We're just a few guys trying to make a living. Can't we talk this out?

HEAD THUG

Get out now, or we will be forced to shoot you!

CAREY

Couldn't we talk to your boss? I'm sure he'll know what we're talking about.

HEAD THUG 37.
He does not want to see anyone right now! You have
five seconds to-

CALVIN
Daniel!

*Enter Calvin Durant, wearing a leisure suit. He
speaks with a subtle Hispanic accent.*
What did I here you say?

HEAD THUG
I...I was just telling these idiots here to clear out-

CALVIN
No, no. About me wanting to see anyone.

HEAD THUG
Oh. I-

CALVIN
Did I tell you that I didn't want to see anyone right
now?

HEAD THUG
Well, no. But I figured with what happened last
week...

CALVIN
You figured? You assumed what I wanted without asking
me?

HEAD THUG
I...I'm sorry.

CALVIN
No, no. I understand.

He grabs the head thug.
Who the hell do you think you are, thinking you know
what I want!?

HEAD THUG
Please! Please Mr. Durant, don't hurt me!

CALVIN 38.

And now you're telling me how to do my job? You worthless, stupid, incompetent-

He looks up and sees the three detectives. He releases the head thug.

CALVIN
You will not speak out of line again.

HEAD THUG
No sir, I won't!

CALVIN
I know you will. I'm going to make sure of it.

turns to a thug
Take him to the boiler room.

HEAD THUG
What? No! No! Mr. Durant, not there!

CALVIN
You must learn, Daniel. When the child acts out, you must use the paddle.

HEAD THUG
Please, Mr. Durant! I know I was wrong! Don't send me there!

Two thugs grab him
I was trying to protect you! Keep you safe!

CALVIN
And look where it got you.

The thugs carry him out, still screaming

Turns to the three, smiles
Sorry about that. Just can't get good help these days, no? What can I do for you boys?

CAREY
Er, we're here to work. We heard you needed some more hands.

CALVIN

39.

Well, you heard right! Last week, we had some cops in here. Had to shoot the place up.