

ONE-WAY RIDE

Written by

Bradley Perkins

Bperkins99@student.fullsail.edu
Bperkins99@gmail.com

INT. WAREHOUSE OFFICE - NIGHT

Three men sit in a cigar-smoke-filled, dimly lit office.

MATTY, 31, dressed in jeans and a dark jacket, twirls an unlit cigarette between his fingers. As he leans forward in his seat, he tucks the cigarette behind his ear.

GIO, 32, sits next to Matty, in a more relaxed way, dressed similar to Matty.

ANGELO "BOSS" CERONE, 63, sits behind a mahogany desk. His gold rings glisten under the dim lights and a fat cigar is wedged between his fingers.

The Boss exhales the smoke and watches it wash over his expensive suit.

BOSS

My condolences, Matty. Losing a wife, I can't imagine what you're going through right now.

The Boss pulls a black bag from behind the desk and places it in front of Matty. The bag opens, revealing the contents inside, stacks of cash.

BOSS (CONT'D)

It's just a little something to help ease your pain. Take some time for yourself. Return when ready.

MATTY

I need to see this thing through. Whoever did this to Mary...

GIO

Matty... Take some time off. We'll take care of this. Right, Boss?

Matty looks away.

The Boss emerges from behind the desk. He grabs the bag of cash and shoves it in Matty's chest.

BOSS

Matty... I assure you, we will find him and deal with 'em.

MATTY

Yes sir, but I--

Matty stands and faces the Boss.

BOSS

Matty, you're our numbers guy, not a killer. Leave this to us. There's no coming back when you cross that line.

The Boss pats Matty on the face with one hand.

BOSS (CONT'D)

Distance yourself from this for now. Take a trip somewhere. Clear your head.

Matty's slumps out of the room with the cash.

EXT. WAREHOUSE PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Matty and Gio walk to the nearly vacant parking lot. Walking towards them is an attractive brunette. She smiles at them as she passes. Gio turns and watches her walk to the building.

GIO

Maybe now's your chance to get out. I know Mary wanted that. Where'd she want to move to? Maine?

Gio turns back around, not missing a stride.

MATTY

Vermont. I should've listened.

Matty stares off into the distance .

GIO

This isn't on you. It was just some messed up thing that happened. You should take that trip to Vermont.

MATTY

I guess, but this just doesn't feel right. Why is the Boss so adamant on me leaving town?

GIO

It seems like he just wants you stay clean.

Gio gets to his car and slides into the driver's seat.

GIO (CONT'D)

Then again, it does feels little off.

Matty watches as Gio speeds out of the lot.

INT. MATTY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Matty enters his apartment, shuts the door and examines the apartment.

Matty steps over an overturned table and a broken lamp.

Matty plops down on the couch, bumps the cigarette from his ear, and watches it land on the coffee table next to a phone.

Matty touches the phone. It wakes and reveals a photo of him hugging Mary by a pool.

MATTY

Mary... What am I going to do?

The screen goes black and Matty sees his own reflection.

Matty notices a dying plant on the windowsill. He walks over to the plant and begins to pick it up, then places it back down when something catches his eye between the curtains.

Matty sees a black SUV parked on the street. His eyes widen. He yanks the curtain shut and grabs his phone.

MATTY (CONT'D)

Hey... I need you to get over here.

He peeks out the window again.

MATTY (CONT'D)

Hurry and get here.

INT. MATTY'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Matty hears three strong KNOCKS on his front door.

Matty opens the door and sees Gio standing in the hallway.

Gio looks steps inside.

GIO

So, what's going on?

Matty shuts and locks the door behind Gio. His hand lingers on the chain lock after he secures it.

MATTY

There's a few things that I just
can't wrap my head around.

(MORE)

MATTY (CONT'D)

They said it was a break in... but
I don't see any signs of that.

Gio looks around the room.

GIO

Really?

MATTY

How'd they get in then?

GIO

Front door? Window by the fire
escape?

Gio makes a hand gesture to the window.

MATTY

I thought that too, but the windows
are painted shut. Try and open any
window in this apartment. They're
all like that.

Gio walks over to the window and struggles to open it.

GIO

Ok, well then they broke in through
the front door. Did they pick the
lock?

MATTY

Mary always used the chain lock,
and it's still intact. The door
wasn't kicked in or busted up.

GIO

I don't know man... The boss said
he'd take care of it

MATTY

Mary knowingly let her killer in.
She must've known who it was. She
wouldn't open the door if not.

Matty joins Gio at the window and pulls the curtain back.

MATTY (CONT'D)

This right here is the reason I
called you over. Who owns a fleet
of SUVs like that?

Gio looks out the window and shrugs his shoulders.

GIO

Yeah, that does look like one of the Boss's, but why is it there?

Matty pulls the curtain shut and walks away.

MATTY

You think the Boss had something to do with this? This just doesn't make sense.

Gio follows Matty to the couch and sits by him.

MATTY (CONT'D)

The money, the SUV, sending me away...What do you think?

GIO

I think you should leave town like Mary wanted you to. A fresh start.

MATTY

Life in a new town, and not knowing for sure if the Boss was involved. I don't know.

GIO

Running is better than dying. Go pack. I'll stick around until you head out.

Matty nods and walks down a hallway.

Gio watches Matty leave the room and walks over and picks up Mary's phone from the coffee table.

Gio wakes the screen and the image of Mary and Matty pops up. He swipes to the passcode and enters several numbers.

Matty steps into the room and sees Gio on Mary's phone.

MATTY

Why do have Mary's phone?

GIO

This picture was from when we all went to Vegas, isn't it? You, me, Mary and my ex.

Matty nods and takes the phone from Gio and stares at the screen and see that numbers were entered.

MATTY

Did you try unlocking it?

GIO
Nah, I must've just bumped the
screen.

Matty erases the numbers and enters the correct code and
walks down the hall with the phone.

INT. MATTY'S APARTMENT HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Matty views some messages on Mary's phone.

Matty sees that Mary sent Gio a photo of Gio kissing the
brunette from the parking lot earlier in the night.

He scrolls up and views the last message sent by Gio.

The message reads: "I'll come over and we'll talk about it.
Don't tell Matty. The fewer people that know the better."

Matty shares the image via text to a number he enters.
"Message Sent" appears on the phone.

Matty types a message. "This Matty. He's here. My apartment."

A message pops up on the screen. "Keep him there"

INT. MATTY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Gio walks to the window and looks down at the black SUV.

Matty drops his suitcase by the front door.

Gio turns to Matty.

MATTY
Let's have a drink before I take
off. A few more minutes here won't
hurt. How about it?

Gio shrugs.

MATTY (CONT'D)
Look, I figure if something was
gonna go down, it would've already
happened. One last drink.

GIO
Alright. Who knows when or if
you'll ever be back.

INT. MATTY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Matty and Gio sit on the couch both with beers in their hands. A few empty beers sit on a coffee table.

Matty gets up and walks to the window and peeks outside. He watches as another SUV pulls up and parks behind the first.

Matty grabs the plant by the window and walks it over to his luggage.

MATTY

Mary would kill me if I let her
plant die. She loved this thing.

He then chugs the rest of his beer and picks up his unlit cigarette from the coffee table and tucks it behind his ear.

GIO

You ever gonna smoke that?

Gio still sits, relaxed, and smoking.

MATTY

Mary made me quit after my last
pack... got one left. Waiting for
the right moment I guess.

A KNOCK on the door. Gio turns to Matty.

Matty shrugs with a questioning look.

Gio stands as Matty unlocks and opens the door. In walks the Boss. BRUNO, 50, a huge man in a dark suit, waits outside and pulls the door shut.

The Boss sits down on a chair and motions for Gio to sit.

BOSS

I have received some unfortunate
news. It confirmed my suspicions.

The boss looks at Matty.

BOSS (CONT'D)

It hurts that you would think that
I would harm your Mary. I know you
thought it was me.

The boss relaxes back in the chair.

BOSS (CONT'D)
I realize dark time creates dark
thoughts. I will not fault you for
this. You're family.

The boss looks over at Gio.

BOSS (CONT'D)
As for you... The way she died,
that's how you work.

GIO
I didn't--

BOSS
Enough. I know everything.

The Boss shows Gio the same image from Mary's phone.

BOSS (CONT'D)
I always knew you were a rat.

The Boss turns to Matty. Matty glares at Gio.

BOSS (CONT'D)
Matty, he will pay with his life
for what he's done.

Gio's eyes looking down and avoid eye-contact with Matty.

BOSS (CONT'D)
My car will take you wherever you
want. Come back when ready or stay
gone if you wish.

Matty grabs his packed bags and stares at Gio. He still
avoids eye-contact. He opens the door and Bruno blocks the
way out.

BOSS (CONT'D)
Let him through. Take this one to
the warehouse... and send for my
wife to join us there.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Matty walks up to the first SUV. The DRIVER, 42, wearing a
dark suit jacket, rolls down the window.

DRIVER
Where to? The casino? The airport?
The harbor?

Matty gets in the back.

MATTY
You mind if I smoke?

DRIVER
Go for it.

Matty lights his cigarette and takes a puff.

He holds the cigarette out and stares at it while smoke floats out the window.

MATTY
Vermont. I hear Vermont's nice.

The Driver gives a short laugh and starts the SUV up.

The SUV drives away.