EXT. CEMETERY - LATE AFTERNOON

DWAYNE TANNER (24) dressed in a soiled Domino's Pizza uniform, leans over a grave.

DWAYNE

Fuck you, fuck you, fuck youuuuu, Mama. You said I was gonna get the house.

From the passenger side of a truck parked nearby, MELISSA, 20, leans out.

MELISSA

Come on, Dwayne. You're gonna be late for work.

Dwayne drops the flowers he brought on the grave.

DWAYNE

You promised me. Now I learn Eddie got the house? I have to live in the fucking camper behind the house I grew up in?

Dwayne picks up the flowers again and beats them across the headstone and throws what's left down again and walks back to the truck.

INT. TRUCK - DRIVING DOWN ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Melissa turns the rear view mirror to her as she puts on makeup.

DWAYNE

DWAYNE (CONT'D)

Why are you putting makeup on? I'm dropping you off at home before I go to work.

MELISSA

Why can't you be more like Eddie? He's got ambition.

DWAYNE

He's a drug dealer, Melissa. And he tricked mama into changing her will.

MELISSA

He's a good brother to you, Dwayne. He said we could move back in until we find a place to live.

DWAYNE

We've got a place. The camper.

MELISSA

That camper is a piece of shit and I need a real bathroom.

DWAYNE

I'm hiring a lawyer to get the house back.

**MELISSA** 

With your pizza tip money? I've already moved my stuff back in so you can stay in the backyard by yourself if you want.

DWAYNE

You're my fucking girlfriend. You have to stay by my side!

**MELISSA** 

Like I said, Eddie has ambition.

Dwayne speeds up the truck dangerously and runs a stop sign barely missing another car.

DWAYNE

You want ambition? Here's some ambition for you!

MELISSA

Dwayne! Slow down! You'll kill us.

DWAYNE

You and me, baby! Together forever!

Dwayne jerks the wheel and the truck slides sideway in the gravel as Melissa screams.

The truck lands head first in a ditch in front of the Tanner house.

EXT. TANNER HOUSE - EVENING

Music blares from the open front door where EDDIE TANNER (28) stands holding a beer.

Melissa jumps out of the truck and slams the door.

MELISSA

Fuck you, Dwayne. It's over between us.

DWAYNE

You whore! Wait! Melissa! Come back, please. I didn't mean that.

Melissa pushes past Eddie and disappears into the house. Dwayne glares at Eddie.

EDDIE

Charming.

Dwayne ignores him and heads into the dark backyard.

EXT: BACKYARD - EVENING

A lone lightbulb hangs over a 1990's camper that has seen better days. Dwayne sits down in a lawn chair and notices the dog food bowls are untouched, the dog bed is empty.

DWAYNE

Butch? Where are you? Goddamn it. Where'd you go, little fella? BUTCHY!!!

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - EVENING

Dwayne staples a LOST DOG FLYER on the telephone pole and gets back into his truck. The front of the truck is banged up from landing in the ditch.

Dwayne's cheeks are wet. He wipes his face and roars the truck back to life.

DWAYNE

I never wanted a fucking dog anyway.

EXT. DOMINOS PIZZA - EVENING

Dwayne's truck pulls in aggressively. Dwayne grabs pizza insulation bags out of the truck bed and heads inside.

INT. DOMINOS PIZZA - CONTINOUS

Dwayne throws the insulation bags on the counter.

BUBBA, (45) slapping dough between his fat fingers in a strange soothing rhythm.

BUBBA

Where's the money, Dwayne?

DWAYNE

What are you talking about?

**BUBBA** 

Your receipts from last night?

DWAYNE

In the drawer like I always drop them.

BUBBA

Nope.

**DWAYNE** 

Then someone ripped you off.

BUBBA

Only your receipts were missing, Dwayne.

DWAYNE

What are you saying?

BUBBA

You're fired.

DWAYNE

Bubba? I need this job. Why would I steal from you? I like this job. I like you!

**BUBBA** 

I won't call the police if you give the money back.

DWAYNE

Call the police. I don't have anything to hide.

**BUBBA** 

Just get out, Dwayne.

DWAYNE

You know what, Bubba? I quit. I don't need you or this crappy job. I'm joining the Army anyway.

(MORE)

DWAYNE (CONT'D)

Nothing left in this shit-hole town for me.

EXT. SHINY BOOT HOTEL - EVENING

Cheap hotel downtown. The lobby is dark and abandoned. The hallways smell like mold. Muffled laughing can be heard from behind a door.

INT. ROOM 11 - EVENING

Dwayne walks out of the bathroom wrapped in a towel, his hair wet from a shower.

BETTY(18) sits on one bed pulling up her panty hose.

LARRY (22) pulls the blanket up to his neck on the other bed laughing.

LARRY

Girl, you need some clean underwear. Your Lululemon have seen better days.

DWAYNE

We could go get something to eat if you guys are hungry.

BETTY

Nah, I'm good. You got any cigarettes?

Dwayne walks over to the bed and pulls a pack out of the drawer.

DWAYNE

Come on, Betty. I paid for the whole night.

BETTY

Honey, I think you got your money's worth.

LARRY

I'll stay with you, Dwayne.

DWAYNE

Ask Pooky to give you the night off.

BETTY

Pooky is a business man, Dwayne. If you were a business man, I might fuck you for free.

LARRY

I think she likes you, Dwayne.

BETTY

Shut up, Larry, and walk me home.

Larry gets up and pulls on a crumpled close fitting dress of his own. Betty and Larry both kiss Dwayne goodnight. Larry stubs out his cigarette in the tray.

LARRY

See you tomorrow?

DWAYNE

If you show up.

Larry and Betty leave. Dwayne closes the door. He lays down on the bed staring at the ceiling. He smells something.

Beside him, the ask tray stinks. He dumps it in the trash by the door and turns off all the lights. The lights from the street give an eerie glow to the room.

DWAYNE (CONT'D)

Fuck it. I don't need anyone.

EXT. SHINY BOOT HOTEL - LATER THAT EVENING

In the street below, firetrucks cut off traffic. Lights swirl and flash lighting up the face of the hotel. Firemen look up. Smoke billows out of a room above their heads.

INT. HOTEL HALLWAY- NIGHT

A woman bangs on doors and runs down the hall.

WOMAN

Fire! Get out! Fire!

INT. ROOM 11 - CONTINUOUS

The smoke is dense and we barely see Dwayne moving in the bed. His eyes pop open and he starts coughing.

DWAYNE

What the hell? Oh, Jesus!

Coughing, Dwayne drapes the wet towel on the bed over his face and staggers to the door. It won't open. He bangs on the door.

DWAYNE (CONT'D)

Help! I'm in here! Help!

EXT. SHINY BOOT HOTEL - CONTINUOUS

Captain radios to the team.

CAPTAIN

Everybody out?

INT. HOTEL HALLWAY- NIGHT

FIREMAN 1 in full gear clears the hall. FIREMAN 2 waves to him thumbs up.

FIREMEAN 1

(on radio)

Rooms 1 through 15 clear!

FIREMEAN 2

(on radio)

Room 15 through 30 clear! Hotel Clear! All units extracting.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dwayne desperately jerks at the door and bangs.

DWAYNE

Fuck fuck fuck fuck

Smokes fills the room. Dwayne chokes and drops to the floor. The room fades to black.

EXT. SHINY BOOT HOTEL - CONTINUOUS

CAPTAIN

Ok, clear out everybody. Let's get the trucks back to the station.

Above them, Dwayne is clawing at the window.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dwayne crawls across the floor and pushes the window open and steps out on the ledge.

EXT. SHINY BOOT HOTEL - CONTINUOUS

DWAYNE

Hey! Don't leave me!

Dwayne has inched further out on the ledge but has no where to go. Below him is a canopy over the walkway to the front door of the hotel. He closes his eyes and jumps.

EXT. BUS STATION - MORNING

Dwayne stands in ill-fitting borrowed jeans and t-shirt. Alone. He is covered in bruises and bandages. His eyebrows looked singed off.

A voice announces the bus is leaving. Dwayne looks around one last time and picks up the large duffel bag by his feet and climbs on the bus.

DWAYNE

Fuck you Larry. You said you'd come say good bye.

EXT. SANGIN DISTRICT AREA OF HELMAND PROVINCE - DAWN

Dwayne moves quickly across the street and presses up against a wall. Bullets whiz over his head.

Fuck fuck fuck fuck.

Dwayne calls on his radio.

DWAYNE

Sargeant! Where are you guys?

Above Dwayne, on the roof across the street, several Army soldiers crouch and peek over the edge..

SARGEANT BRILLO

Can you shut up for a second, Tanner? You're broadcasting your position.

DWAYNE

Sir, yes sir. Sorry for the urgency but kinda taking direct hits, sir.

Bullet pop at Dwayne's boots. He jumps out and runs across the street zig zagging. Gun fire follows him.

SARGEANT BRILLO

(over the radio)

Keep your dick in your pants, Tanner.

DWAYNE

Kinda have my dick in my hand here, sir. Still taking fire. FUCKKKKKK.

Explosion and rapid fire machine gun as Dwayne jumps head first into a nearby alley and lands next to slumped body.

DWAYNE (CONT'D)

Come on, buddy, we have to get out of here. I'm gonna help you.

Dwayne picks up the wounded soldier and scrambles to a back door. He squats down and calls on his radio.

DWAYNE (CONT'D)

Sarge, coming out. Cover me.

The street explodes in front of the building where the soldiers were last seen.

SARGEANT BRILLO

Private, stay where you are! You are in direct line. We cannot reach you. Stay in position. Stay in position. We will extract if possible.

DWAYNE

If possible! What the fuck?! I'm getting out here.

Dwayne drops low and drags the soldier between his legs as he looks backward as enemy fire targets him running along the perimeter.

SARGEANT BRILLO

I'm sorry, son, we're pulling back. We'll come back for you as soon as we can. Hold your position.

DWAYNE

Wait! Don't leave! Don't leave me. Fuck you guys!

Dwayne lifts the soldier and drags him around the corner. He stops in the middle of the street, throws a handful of grenades behind him, throws the soldier over his shoulder and runs as fast as he can as the grenades explode one after another behind him.