

CONTROL

Written by

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Based on thoughts

INT. ROOM - DAY

Sluggish NICK sits on the couch, slouched forward, dark circles around his eyes. His therapist, DOM checks the time.

DOM
Anything you want to share or tell
me before we end-

NICK
I've said it like three times
already. I don't want to talk. I
just wanted to come in and be in
silence. You're getting paid
anyway.

DOM
I would like to make good use of
both your time and money.

Nick looks up at Dom.

DOM (CONT'D)
You only have a few minutes left.
It can be something small.

NICK
I just wanted company.

DOM
What about your friends.

NICK
From someone I trust.

DOM
You don't trust your friends?

Nick does a heavy exhale and his eyes move down again.

DOM (CONT'D)
Your eyes have gotten darker since
last week. I thought you said you'd
get more rest.

NICK
I said I would try.

Dom starts writing more notes onto the notebook at his lap.

NICK (CONT'D)
We should get a drink sometime.
Since this is my last session.

DOM
You've said it was your last
session last time, and the time
before that...

Nick rubs his eyes.

DOM (CONT'D)
And you've invited me out for
drinks before. Like I've said, I
don't drink.

NICK
I don't trust people who don't
drink.

DOM
Why is that?

NICK
Feels like they have something to
hide.

DOM
You drink much.

NICK
I've tried.

DOM
You've tried drinking?

Nick does a seemingly painful gulp.

NICK
I drink...but I'm afraid of losing
control.

DOM
Is that why you don't sleep much?

NICK
My mom, I told you about her right?

DOM
Yes, I remember.

NICK
I didn't tell you what I was doing.

Beat.

NICK (CONT'D)
We were talkin' on the phone. I'd just gotten home from a party for work. I was tired.

Nick rubs his hands against his thighs.

NICK (CONT'D)
She was going to do a last minute run to the store, but she always loves when I call.

Nick rubs his eyes again.

NICK (CONT'D)
I was dozing off so she told me to get some sleep and she got off the phone. Got a call a few hours later that she was hit by a drunk driver.

Dom writes.

NICK (CONT'D)
I think that maybe if I stayed on a little longer, or was more aware...

Nick sniffles.

NICK (CONT'D)
I had a friend, CJ. He wanted to check out this party on the south side. Not the best place to be, especially if you're not from there. Especially if you're not from there and you're alone.

Dom closes his book.

NICK (CONT'D)
I had a rough day at work and...I told him I was on the way. I tried to take a cat nap, but overslept.
(beat)
He was shot...and died alone.

Nick looks up at Dom.

DOM
So you believe if you stay awake you control what happens? You think nothing bad can happen.

Nick looks away. Dom checks the time.

DOM (CONT'D)
Nick, I think we should continue
this-

NICK
One of these days it'll really be
my last session. I'm just waiting
to get the courage.

DOM
The courage for what?

Nick stands up.

NICK
Time's up isn't it?

DOM
(standing)
I can make more time-

NICK
It's all good.

Nick and Dom approach the door.

NICK (CONT'D)
Maybe next time we can talk about
your secrets.

DOM
So we're scheduling for same time
next week?

Nick and Dom look at each other. Dom has a slight smirk.

NICK
Nah. This'll be my last one.

DOM
(chuckles)
Then I'll wait for another last
minute call before our next
session.

Dom opens the door. Nick grins.

NICK
You're good people, doc. I won't
let 'em hurt you when they arrive.

Nick walks out.