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Hermanos

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COLD OPEN

FADE IN: INT. CLASSROOM - NOON

JORGE RODRIGUEZ (20s), a hardworking, intelligent, charismatic, and arrogant young man is taking a final exam. The classroom is filled with around 20 students.

Jorge looks at the clock. The second hand of the clock is close to hitting the 12 mark. He finishes his test just in time. He turns the test to the professor

JORGE

Well, that's the last test. I am finally done. A whole new life is waiting right outside that door.

PROFESSOR

You've earn it Jorge. Enjoy your graduation.

INT. FANCY RESTRAUNT - AFTERNOON

Jorge wearing an old suit too big for him, is sitting with his girlfriend TAYLOR (20s)

TAYLOR

I am so happy for you love, and I am happy that I no longer have to help you with the late night study sessions.

JORGE

Hey it paid off! I couldn't have done this without you.

A waiter comes with with an expensive wine bottle

JORGE

Now that's more like it.

Jorge gets up out of his sit.

JORGE

Taylor there has been something I have been thinking about for a while. I am about to start a new chapter in my life.

Jorge gets down on one knee and pulls out a ring.

JORGE
I want to start it with you.

TAYLOR
I don't know what to say.

JORGE
You can say yes.

TAYLOR
Oh my god! Yes!

EXT. TAYLOR'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Jorge and Taylor are outside of Taylor's apartment.

JORGE
I'll pick you up on Saturday. I hope
your father will approve

TAYLOR
Don't worry he will, and if he doesn't
who cares. Jorge, you should invite
your brother.

JORGE
I'll see you later.

Jorge and Taylor kiss goodbye.

TAYLOR
Don't be late!

JORGE
I wouldn't miss it for the world!

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - NIGHT

Jorge grabs his keys and opens the door to his apartment.

INT. JORGE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Federal agents and police officers are inside waiting for
Jorge.

ACT ONE

INT. JORGE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Jorge is frozen in the doorway, as he stares at a dozen federal agents and police officers. AGENT MENENDEZ steps up to Jorge.

AGENT MENENDEZ

Mr. Rodriguez! I need you to come with us!

JORGE

Woah! What the hell is going on?

AGENT MENENDEZ

There's no time to explain. Your life is in danger. You need to come with us!

JORGE

No! I am not going anywhere until you explain to me what you are doing in my home. Do you have a warrant to be in here? Am I under arrest? No? Then I am not going anywhere with you.

AGENT MENENDEZ

Please Mr. Rodriguez. This concerns you and your family. I can tell you more details when we get to a safe location.

JORGE

Okay.

INT. UNKNOWN WAREHOUSE- NIGHT

Jorge and Agent Mendendez are sitting in a warehouse across from each other.

AGENT MENENDEZ

I'm sorry about this Mr. Rodriguez. We had to move you for your safety.

JORGE

Who are you? What is going on?

AGENT MENENDEZ
I'm Agent Menendez. I work in the
Witness Protection Program.

JORGE
Witness protection? Why the hell am I
in witness protection? I'm just a law
student- was a law student.

AGENT MENENDEZ
It's about your brother. Gabriel.

JORGE
Gabriel?

AGENT MENENDEZ
Gabriel crossed paths with a drug
lord, Adrian Marcos Lavina. He is
extremely dangerous.

JORGE
What does this have to do with me?
Gabriel and I haven't spoken with each
other in years.

AGENT MENENDEZ
Gabriel has valuable information on
Lavina. We have been after Lavina for
years. Gabriel has information that
could put him away for good, and that
is why you are with us. Lavina will do
anything to find Gabriel. Any family
member, friend, acquaintance, any
stranger that looked at Gabriel on the
street isn't safe. We believe that he
will try to find you first.

Jorge gets out of his chair. He steps over to a nearby wall
and rests on it.

AGENT MENENDEZ
I know this is hard to hear.

JORGE
Hard? Do you have any idea what you
have just done. My whole life, I have
worked to get away from that
lifestyle! I worked my ass off to put
myself through college. I am starting
a new life, and now you come in and
throw all of that awa-

Agent Menendez grabs a duffle bag with a set of clothes, passport, money, and IDs, and throws it in front of Jorge interrupting his rant.

AGENT MENENDEZ

Mr. Rodriguez I wish I could say it would get easier, but it won't. I am going to put this bluntly. You will have to start over. Everything you have worked for will be gone. Everyone you know and love will disappear from your life, and you will disappear from their's. This is a bag containing your new identity, Juan Pozo, 25.

ACT TWO

INT. ADRIAN'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Adrian's office is big. It is full of the taste of the high and rich life. The room is perfect. Every object, every set of furniture has a specific spot and purpose. Nothing is there without a reason. ADRIAN MARCOS LAVINA (50s) drug lord in a white suit, sits in his chair looking at a picture of his deceased sister, MARIA (10). He is smoking a Cuban, with his hand shaking.

MARIA

(sfx in Adrian's head, with fire
sfx roaring)

ADRIAN!

KNOCK on the door.

ADRIAN

Come in.

Two of Adrian's goons walks into the room. One of the goons creases the rug.

GOON

Sir, the police got to the boy before
we did. He's gone.

ADRIAN

(beat)

You creased the rug.

Adrian stares at the goon. The goon goes down to fix the rug. Adrian quickly gets up and slams the goon's head into the ground, and drags it across the floor to fix the crease in the rug.

ADRIAN

Get me my contact in Witness
protection.

EXT. AIRPORT - NIGHT

Jorge walks up to a small airplane, where he meets his brother GABRIEL (20s).

EXT. AIRPORT - NIGHT

Jorge and Gabriel stand there, looking at each other, with Agent Menendez in the background. Gabriel goes to punch

Jorge.

GABRIEL

Fuck you!

AGENT MENENDEZ

Hey break it up!

Agent Menendez pulls Gabriel off of Jorge.

JORGE

We wouldn't be in this mess if it wasn't for you! If you got straight and would go after a good career, we wouldn't be here right now. So, don't tell me to fuck off!

GABRIEL

It's my fault? Because it is always on me. What was I supposed to do Jorge? You left! You were the best chance that any of us had. Instead of using your smarts to help Luis, Carlos, Antonio, Manuel, you left to help yourself!

GABRIEL

(beat)

Carlos got sick. He needed help fast. We didn't have the money. Luis had a connection in the cartel. It was supposed to be a simple job. Move drugs from one place to another. It went wrong. Now they are-

GABRIEL

It was a mistake. If you were there, you could've come up with a better plan. But you left.

Gabriel gets on the plane. Jorge slowly follows behind him.

EXT. YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO - DAWN

Jorge and Gabriel are walking in a small town in Ohio called Yellow Springs. The street is empty and the town is small and rural. They walk up to a old small house.

INT. NEW HOME LIVING ROOM - DAWN

Jorge, Gabriel, and Agent Menendez are sitting in a small,

but comfortable house. The living room is barely furnished, with only some folding chairs and a folding table.

AGENT MENENDEZ

This is where you will be staying. I know it's not much. Over the next few days we will people come in and furnish it. Help you get set up.

JORGE

How long are we suppose to stay here?

AGENT MENENDEZ

I don't know. Lavina has a lot of resources. It will be a while until-

JORGE

Until you catch him? He's been a criminal for decades! I can't be here for years. I have a life that I am trying to build.

GABRIEL

I can't be with this pendejo!

AGENT MENENDEZ

Well you will have to be. The sooner you two accept your situation the better. In each of your duffle bags there is a file on your new identity. Study it. Next week you will start new jobs. Here is a bank account that we will wire money to. Blend into the community. Don't stand out. Do not contact any family members or friends. We have no clue who Lavina has gotten too. I will see you two in about a week. You need to stay with each other as much as possible. Have each other's backs.

ACT THREE

INT. LIVING ROOM AFTERNOON

Jorge is sleeping on old and used couch. He passed out from exhaustion and is still in his clothes. Jorge hears a rustling, and suddenly wakes up.

JORGE

Gabriel? Gabriel is that you?

There is silence. Jorge is looking around and sees nothing but a big empty house.

SFX: Doorknob jingling and banging.

Jorge slowly backs up to the kitchen counter and grabs a knife. The door opens to reveal Gabriel, with grocery bags.

GABRIEL

Woah hey!

JORGE

Jesus Gabriel! Where the hell were you?

GABRIEL

I was just picking up some goods.

Gabriel shows a bottle of Jonnie Walker, some rum, and some plastic cups.

JORGE

You should have told me. We are suppose to stay together.

GABRIEL

You don't tell me what to do. If I want to go out, I'll go out.

JORGE

That kind of attitude right there is the reason we are in this mess! Next time use your brain.

GABRIEL

Putas!

Gabriel starts to pour a glass.

(Jorge grabs it from him and gulps
)

(it down.)
Give me that.

GABRIEL
Now you want you some?

JORGE
Shut up, it's been a long day.

INT. LIVING ROOM NIGHT

Jorge and Gabriel are sitting on the couch laughing together and drunk.

GABRIEL
I'll never forget when we got caught underage drinking. I was gonna kick the cop in his conjones and run, but then you come flying in and talk him out of it.

JORGE
To this day I have no idea how I did it. Even in college, it is still the best legal defense I have ever done.

GABRIEL
Why did you have to leave for college? You could have stayed with the gang... with me. Now we're in this mess.

JORGE
I had to get out of there. Forget my past and move forward.

GABRIEL
Does that mean forgetting me?

There is a long awkward silence.

JORGE
I'm getting married, well was getting married.

GABRIEL
What?

JORGE
To my girlfriend Taylor. You're the only other person who knows. She wants you to come met her, even after all

the things I said about you, both good and bad. I may have left, but I never forgot about you.

Jorge reaches out with his hand. Gabriel goes to shake it, but something changes in his face. An anger has taken over.

(slaps Jorge's hand away)
You think saying you didn't forget about me and having a couple of drinks would make everything okay? IT DOESN'T!

Gabriel walks off.

ACT FOUR

INT. DINER - NOON

A week has passed. Jorge is waiting at a busy diner. His name tag reads Juan. A large SMASH is heard in the kitchen, and inaudible shouting is heard. Gabriel storms out of the kitchen and throws off his apron.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NOON

A unknown figure is in an alleyway with a burner cell phone. They dial a number.

INT. ADRIAN'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Adrian is in his office on the phone with his MOLE in Witness protection

MOLE (V.O)
They made a call. I wasn't able to get the location in time. They caught it before I got the chance to get the caller's location, but I was able to get the recipient 2nd street, apartment 204.

Adrian hangs up the phone.

ACT FIVE

INT. TAYLOR'S BEDROOM- MORNING

The bedroom is slightly messy, with some clothes/laundry on the ground. The buzz of a phone alarm is going off. Taylor wakes up and snoozes the alarm.

CUT TO:

INT. ADRIAN'S BEDROOM- MORNING

Adrian's bedroom is luxurious, very clean, and very neat. The alarm buzzes and he turns it off, getting up straight and slowly like a robot.

CUT TO:

INT. TAYLOR'S CLOSET - MORNING

Taylor is putting on a fancy black dress and getting ready.

CUT TO:

INT. ADRIAN'S CLOSET - MORNING

Adrian is putting on his neatly pressed white suit.

CUT TO:

INT. TAYLOR'S BATHROOM - MORNING

Taylor is doing last minute touches on her hair and makeup. She washes her hands and puts on her ring.

CUT TO:

INT. ADRIAN'S BATHROOM - MORNING

Adrian is slicking back his hair with gel. He washes his hands and puts on a ring with his family crest symbol, a lion.

CUT TO:

I/E. TAYLOR'S APARTMENT FRONT DOOR

Taylor opens the front door. Adrian is standing there.

ADRIAN
Hello Mrs. Rodriguez

