

BROTHERS FOR LIFE

Screenplay

By Wesley Trower

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WORDS SLOWLY APPEAR ONTO THE BACKGROUND OF A BLACK SCREEN

When a man is denied the right to live the life he believes in, he has no choice but to become an outlaw. - Nelson Mandela.

DISSOLVES TO:

INT. Bryan's apartment - Night

Camera shot zooms in of Bryan as walks up to his desk as he pours himself a glass of scotch and decides to sit down to glance upon his journal.

BRYAN JOHNSON

My name is Bryan Johnson, I was born on April 15th, 1951.

BRYAN JOHNSON

For all of my adult life now I feel as if I've been a solider fighting one war after another. It didn't manner who I shot and if they deserved it.

BRYAN JOHNSON

I just simply followed orders. But it wasn't suppose to go on for this long not originally. But how can you say no to more coin.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Plus men like me, we don't that many opportunities in life. And we both know exactly why that is. So when life

offers you those opportunities
regardless of whether or not there
right or wrong you take it.

Bryan takes a sip of his drink.

BRYAN JOHNSON

And squeeze everything out of it until
there's nothing left take squeeze out.
At least that's what my dad told me
once anyway.

CUTS TO:

EXT. STREETS OF DETROIT- DAY

An African American family of four is shown entering the city
of Detroit in a black Cadillac while a grown up Bryan
speaking off screen.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

Detroit, Michigan. It's not New York,
or Chicago. But it'll do I guess.
Certainly hope isn't reminiscinent of
my last home.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

This here is my family me and my
sister Mary in the back. And my folks
Isiah and Clara in the front.

Isiah Johnson is shown driving the car with his wife sitting
next to him.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

You see my family and I have
originally came from ol Mississippi in
which you can guess was racist.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

Got even real after I got kicked out
of school for beating the shit out of
this one cracker after he picking on
my sister.

CUTS TO:

EXT. SCHOOL PLAYGROUND. DAY (FLASHBACK)

Young Bryan is shown getting into an altercation with a Caucasian student with fellow students watching on.

Bryan punches the student.

BRYAN JOHNSON

So tell me Jimmy, what did you say to my sister again.

Bryan receives a punch back in the face.

JIMMY

Are you death monkey? You, your sister and your family need to leave this town you Nigg-.

Before he could finish Bryan pushes him down and continues to punch him.

Mary runs up and grabs Bryan.

MARY JOHNSON

Bryan, stop it. He's had enough.

Mary is too weak to pull him off but the teachers come running in and pull Bryan and Jimmy apart from one another.

CUTS TO:

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE. DAY

Bryan is sitting with his mother listening to the principal speak.

PRINCIPAL

I'm very sorry Mrs. Johnson I am. But we feel as if the other students are just not safe around Bryan. And this fight is just one too many for him.

CLARA JOHNSON

But what about the other student involved. What are his consequences exactly. And he was said to be bullying my daughter as well.

PRINCIPAL

Well he will be receiving punishment as well but just not as significant as Bryan's.

CLARA JOHNSON
And why is that.

PRINCIPAL
Because and well let's face it Mrs. Johnson, Jimmy has a lot brighter future than Bryan here. Maybe he was just curious about Mary is all.

CLARA JOHNSON
What is that suppose to mean?

PRINCIPAL
It means that Jimmy is more well mannered and has self control unlike your people.

CLARA JOHNSON
My people. You know what I think we have heard enough Bryan let's go. And hope you have an unpleasant rest of the day.

Clara and Bryan leave the room.

CUTS TO:

EXT. HOUSE DRIVEWAY. DAY

The family drives up into the driveway of their new home.

CLARA JOHNSON
Here it is guys are brand new home.

ISIAH JOHNSON
Yeah guys, new home, new opportunities. And most importantly, a fresh start for all of us.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)
So yeah my folks wasn't taking too kindly to how we were being treated down there.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)
And they didn't want me to get into another fight with a damn cracker. So they thought that going up north for a new change of scenery and less racism would be better.

The family starts to unload all of their belongings from out of the car.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)
Plus ma trying to enroll me into
another school down there proved to a
bitch in of itself.

CUTS TO:

EXT. JOHNSON RESIDENCE. DAY

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)
The neighborhood didn't look the best,
and of course the house looked like
crap but a least it was something.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)
You see my mom and dad were listening
to a lot of that Martin Luther King
guy lately and believed that times
were changing for us.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)
That soon we will all truly be free
from these racial discourses and the
Opportunities will start to arise for
all of us.

The Johnson family proceeds to make their way into the house
and view the inside of the establishment.

ISIAH JOHNSON
Don't worry, once I start working will
get this place patched up real quick.

CUTS TO:

EXT. DETROIT DOCKS. DAY

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)
Except those opportunities weren't
coming in as expected and that damn
white man had my dad doing back
breaking work down at the docks.

Isaiah and another worker are struggling to move a heavy
crate into the warehouse.

ISIAH JOHNSON

Andrew, you got to lift with the legs.
Your just hurting your back doing
that.

ANDREW

Yeah well why are you already
breathing hard. We haven't even gotten
that far.

ISIAH JOHNSON

Well last time I checked I am older
then you. And out of shape.

WAREHOUSE BOSS

You monkeys better shut the hell up
and get to stepping with those crates.
Or else you can forget lunch for
today.

The Boss looks over at Isiah.

WAREHOUSE BOSS

You have something to say to me boy?
Because if you do then by all means
share.

ISIAH JOHNSON

No Boss, I'm just trying to catch my
breath.

ISIAH JOHNSON

These crates here are mighty heavy.

WAREHOUSE BOSS

Well you better save your energy and
use it to move these crates damnit.

WAREHOUSE BOSS

We have a deadline to make. And I
won't let you damn darkies make a fool
out of me, understand.

Isiah holds back his anger towards his boss and nods his head
to him in shame.

ISIAH JOHNSON

We understand.

The Warehouse boss leaves to head back to his office while checking his clipboard.

ANDREW

I swear Isiah, your a better man then me. Some of these white devils need a ass whooping once in a while.

ISIAH JOHNSON

Yes, yes they do. But I sadly can't give it to them.

ISIAH JOHNSON

Because of my family.

Isiah and Andrew continue to haul the large crate into the warehouse.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

And this was just a taste of what my dad and his negro coworkers had to deal with on a normal basis. Shouldn't be that surprised though.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

And he was basically making pennies compared to his more fairer skin coworkers.

CUTS TO:

INT. JOHNSON HOUSE. NIGHT

Bryan and his sister Mary are sitting in the living room. Bryan is writing notes and Mary is reading a book for class.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

Things weren't looking as good as my parents had originally hoped. My mom had to even pickup double the work to pay the bills.

Clara walks downstairs putting on her earrings while looking at herself in the mirror.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

But of course Black Women had about the same number of options for work that black men had. Maybe even less.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

So she worked as a hotel maid during the day. And a janitor at the hospital downtown at night.

Isiah walks down stairs attempting to talk to his wife again.

CLARA JOHNSON

Oh oh no Isiah, we're not doing this again.

ISIAH JOHNSON

But Clara, give me a minute please.

CLARA JOHNSON

I would but I got work so no.

ISIAH JOHNSON

Babe, you don't need to work. I'm the man of the house and it's on me to provide for all of you.

CLARA JOHNSON

Well excuse me, mister man but you haven't been providing that much lately.

Clara grabs her purse along with her set of keys.

CLARA JOHNSON

We are behind on the bills and the mortgage ok. And me taking these jobs is the only thing right now that is preventing us from being evicted.

ISIAH JOHNSON

Oh so my job at the docks isn't good enough now.

CLARA JOHNSON

I didn't say that. I just thought that you would get paid more than you did at your last job but it looks like I was wrong.

ISIAH JOHNSON

And you cleaning up after all these crackers is suppose to be good.

CLARA JOHNSON
It isn't good but it's better than
nothing.

Clara walks out the door.

CUTS TO:

EXT. HOUSE DRIVEWAY. NIGHT.

As Clara walks up to the car Isiah follows her from behind.

ISIAH JOHNSON
Look Honey, I didn't want to say
anything but I recently picked up some
extra work myself.

CLARA JOHNSON
You picked up extra work.

ISIAH JOHNSON
Yes, the boss is apparently friends
with this one business man who happens
to be black.

ISIAH JOHNSON
Anyway he hooked me and some of the
other guys up with some work on the
side that's suppose to pay very well.

CLARA JOHNSON
Well what type of work is it.

ISIAH JOHNSON
We're just simply moving more stuff
around is all. Just more expensive
stuff.

CLARA JOHNSON
Is that so?

ISIAH JOHNSON
Yes it is. Now look.

Isiah puts his hands on top of his wife's ass shoulders.

ISIAH JOHNSON
Now look babe. Things are finally
going to get better for us. Just like
we discussed.

ISIAH JOHNSON (CONT.D)

So you can go ahead and keep your jobs
for a little longer. But once the
money starts to pour in for us. Then
let me take over alright.

CLARA JOHNSON

Alright, maybe.

Isiah kisses his wife on the forehead.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

And he proved to be right, as Dad was
suddenly making more money than usual.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O) (CONT.D)

Though I never did find out what my
dad was doing for work. And never
really bothered to cared.

CUT TO:

EX. CITY SIDEWALK. DAY

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

As at the time I was having an
extremely hard time making new friends
in the neighborhood. That was until
one day where I met one Calvin Brady.

Bryan wearing a yellow shirt and black shorts riding his new
purple and black bike that his dad got him.

He continues riding until his bike until he falls off due to
kid on the sidewalk sticking his foot out in front of the
bike.

BULLY

Oh crap, my bad dude. Didn't see you
there.

BRYAN JOHNSON

No worries.

Bryan rolls his arm around to get rid of the soreness.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Nothing that a bandage can't fix.

BULLY

Yeah, so anyway you got any money on you.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Do I look like I have money on me?

The Bully grabs Bryan and shoves him against the wall.

BULLY

Don't give me that type of lip bitch, now where's the dough at?

BRYAN JOHNSON

Not with me. I didn't even get my allowance yet.

The Bully let's go of Bryan.

BULLY

Oh well, I guess I'll just take your bike then.

BRYAN JOHNSON

The heck you will, my daddy paid good money for that bike and I ain't gonna let some fat kid take it.

The Bully sucker punches Bryan and then picks up Bryan's bike.

BULLY

You mean my bike now. And you can tell your "daddy" that Philip said thank you for the new bike.

Before the Bully could leave, an average sized kid wearing jeans and a black T-shirt with a blue vest walks up behind Philip.

CALVIN BRADY

You Phil.

BULLY

What you want?

The Bully turns around.

Calvin throws a punch that connects to Philip's face.

The Bully gets back up.

BULLY
Fucking Calvin.

Philip wipes some of the blood off his lip.

BULLY
Your about to regret that you punk.

CALVIN BRADY
Well how about you come make me.

Philip throws a punch but Calvin blocks it. Then he swings again but Calvin counters and lays a knee up in Philip's gut that makes him fall to the ground.

CALVIN BRADY
Now do me and my new friend here a favor and go home.

Calvin kicks Philip in the but.

The Bully starts to flee away from Calvin and Bryan.

BRYAN NURSING HIS WOUND

Calvin offers his hand to Bryan, and helps him up.

CALVIN BRADY
You okay there friend.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Yeah, This ain't nothing. You should of seen the fights I got into back in home.

CALVIN BRADY
Oh yeah, you're that new kid from the south right.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Yeah, my family moved here from Ole Mississippi a few weeks ago.

CALVIN BRADY
Cool, I'm Calvin.

BRYAN JOHNSON
I'm Bryan.

Both of them fist bump one another.

CALVIN BRADY

So is the south as bad they say it is
for folks like us.

BRYAN JOHNSON

I guess, but you get use to it after a
while. Until they start saying bad
things to your sister.

CALVIN BRADY

Then you gotta give them the business
huh.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Someone has too.

Bryan and Calvin start to head down the sidewalk.

BRYAN JOHNSON

So what is that guy's problem.

CALVIN BRADY

Well you know, he's a big kid so he
uses his size to beat kids up and take
their stuff.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Huh that makes sense.

CALVIN BRADY

Plus he never met his father, his mom
never shows him any love. So he lashes
out at guys like us for it.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Is that true?

CALVIN BRADY

I don't know, but that's what I heard.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well if I see him again then I'm going
make him regret picking on me.

CALVIN BRADY

Don't Worry Bryan, stick with me and
he will never bother you again.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Then I guess that you can count on me too.

CALVIN BRADY

Now that's what I'm talking about bro.

FADE TO:

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

And that's how I met Calvin, and after that things started to get more fun.

BEGIN MONTAGE

- Bryan and Calvin playing basketball.
- Bryan and Calvin talking to a group of girls.
- Bryan and Calvin in their teens, stealing bread from a bakery when the cashier isn't looking.
- Bryan and Calvin taking turns shooting a pistol they stole at broken cars at the city dump.
- Bryan and Calvin meeting with some of Calvin's friends.
- Bryan and Calvin rob from a candy store at night.
- Calvin teaches Bryan how to throw a good uppercut.

End Montage

DISSOLVE TO:

Ext. Jewelry Store - Night

Now in the late teens, Bryan and Calvin dressed up in black hoodies, jeans, and boots walk up to a Jewelry store. Calvin is holding a large rock in one of his hands.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

So now me and Calvin just graduated from High school right, I know what a shocker that we managed to graduate right being no good thieves.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O) (CONT.D)
Anyway, we didn't get that much for
graduating so we decided to head out
and get a little something for
ourselves.

Calvin throws the rock into the window.

Bryan and Calvin start to grab all the jewelry that they can
get their hands on.

CALVIN BRADY
Oh man, just imagine how much we can
buy with all these goods.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Shit maybe I can buy my sister that
car she's been begging for so much.

As Bryan and Calvin are grabbing as much jewelry as they can,
a Caucasian officer driving around the corner and spots them.

OFFICER MURPHY
Hey what's going on.

Officer Murphy turns on the sirens and takes out his
bullhorn.

OFFICER MURPHY
Police, Police. Put your hands on and
get on the ground now.

CALVIN BRADY
Shit Bryan, let's go.

Bryan and Calvin start to run into the nearby alley.

The Officer gets out the car and chases the two men down.

Bryan and Calvin then run into a fence at the end of the
alley.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Here Calvin I'll give you a boost
over.

Calvin steps on Bryan's hands and gets over the fence.

Bryan attempts to climb over the fence. But the officer catches up to him.

OFFICER MURPHY
Stay where you are sir.

Bryan takes his hands off the fence and gets his hands up in the air.

OFFICER MURPHY
And don't you make another move you
thieving negro.

The Officer puts handcuffs on Bryan and takes him to his car.

Calvin looks on as his best friend is getting arrested for the stunt that they just pulled.

CALVIN BRADY
Damn, Bryan I am so sorry my friend.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

BEGIN MONTAGE

- Bryan being pushed into the police station.
- The Officer takes Bryan's finger prints
- Bryan's mug shots are taken from his front and back sides.
- Bryan getting pushed into holding cell

End Montage

CUT TO:

EXT. HOLDING CELL - MORNING

Bryan is holding his hands while shaking back in forth worried and feeling panicked about what comes next.

And officer walks up to the holding cell.

OFFICER WHITE
My Johnson. Bryan Johnson.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Yes Officer.

OFFICER WHITE.
You're wanted in the questioning room.

Bryan gets up and follows the officer through the station into the questioning room.

INT. QUESTIONING ROOM - MORNING

The Officer holds the door open for Bryan as he walks in to see a man wearing an army uniform sitting down waiting for him.

Bryan takes a deep breath then walks into the room preparing to see what comes next.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Morning officer.

SERGEANT MILTON
Actually, Sergeant. Mr. Johnson is it.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Bryan Johnson yes.

SERGEANT MILTON
Well take a seat Johnson, we have some things to discuss.

Both men take a seat.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Look if this was about the jewelry store thing then you're shit out of luck.

SERGEANT MILTON
Is that so?

BRYAN JOHNSON
Yeah, cause my people don't rat to you kinds of people. And you damn sure ain't going to find out who was there with me.

SERGEANT MILTON

Well again Bryan I am not an officer.
And honestly I could care less about
your little fuck your little fuck up
that got you placed in here.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Then why are you here.

SERGEANT MILTON

It's quite simple Mr. Johnson. To give
you another a way to avoid prison.

BRYAN JOHNSON

And that would be to do what, serve.

SERGEANT MILTON

Yes. I don't know if you pay enough
attention to the news bad we're in the
midst of the war over in Vietnam right
now.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yeah to stop this so called spread of
communism right.

SERGEANT MILTON

Yes, and we can use more younger,
stronger, men like you.

BRYAN JOHNSON

What about the fast part?

SERGEANT MILTON

If you were actually fast then you
wouldn't be here.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Point. But why should I serve for you
racist pigs. First you degrade us, whip
on us, and dress up in white hoods to
terrorize us and burn down our homes.
Now you want us chimps to throw on a
vest and become targets for a country
that actively hates us.

SERGEANT MILTON

Look Mr. Johnson, this here is bigger
than the both of us.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Maybe to you, but to me I have more in common with the so called enemy than I do here with you crackers.

Sergeant Milton stands up from his chair.

SERGEANT MILTON

Look here, I can walk out that door right now and let these cops drag your troubled ass to prison. And you will just be another statistic. Or you can serve this nation and be looked at in a better life.

BRYAN JOHNSON

And what about my family? You think they'll want to see me shipped off to possibly never see me again.

SERGEANT MILTON

Well it's better than seeing you in a orange jumpsuit behind bars for the rest of your life.

Bryan starts to look very puzzled.

SERGEANT MILTON

The choice is yours Bryan. But hurry up cause I do have other visitors to see today to give this same offer to.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

So I took the best route, I could for myself at the time.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOUSE DRIVEWAY- DAY

Bryan now sporting a buzz cut and wearing an army uniform is packing his few bags into the car with his family waiting for him in the driveway.

His mother is wearing a black and blue dress, and his sister is wearing a green skirt with a matching green top. While his father is wearing a brown jacket with blue jeans.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well I think this is all my stuff. I better get going now or Sergeant Milton will get real pissed off.

CLARA JOHNSON

Now son, you take care of yourself down there you hear.

Clara puts her hands on Bryan's shoulders.

BRYAN JOHNSON

I hear you ma.

CLARA JOHNSON

And always watch your back.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Ma I can handle myself you know.

CLARA JOHNSON

I know but this is different from Ol Miss. A lot more people got guns, and I hear that it is insanely hot.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yeah I heard a lot too, but don't worry I'll be watchful the entire time.

CLARA JOHNSON

Well I'm going to miss you son.

BRYAN JOHNSON

And I'm going to miss you too. All of you.

Bryan and his mother hug one another.

His sister walks over to them.

MARY JOHNSON

Well look at that, my big brother going off to play Army hero. Now there's something to tell my friends about.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well you know, just doing it for my country.

MARY JOHNSON

Well that is just bull honky right there.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well it was better than the option.

MARY JOHNSON

Maybe, I'm sure it was.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well, I'm going to miss you sis.

MARY JOHNSON

And I will miss you too big brother.

The exchange fist bumps with one another.

MARY JOHNSON

Just please don't die over then, you hear.

BRYAN JOHNSON

I hear you, in fact I'll pick you up a souvenir over there.

MARY JOHNSON

Imma hold you to that.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Ok sure.

Isiah Johnson walks up to his two children.

ISIAH JOHNSON

Hey Mary, you mind if I could have a moment to talk to Bryan alone.

MARY JOHNSON

Yeah sure.

Mary steps to the side.

BRYAN JOHNSON

So what's up pops

ISIAH JOHNSON

It's just that son I'm torn because on one hand I'm happy to see how you look right now but unhappy about where you are heading off to though.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yeah I feel the same way too actually.

ISIAH JOHNSON

Well I just wanted to show you this real quick before you leave.

Isiah takes out a box and removes a watch from it.

ISIAH JOHNSON

This is your Grandfather's watch here.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Oh that's the one that you have been telling us so much about huh.

ISIAH JOHNSON

Yes, it got him through some very tough times back in the day. And once you come back, I want you to have it.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Wait, are you serious.

ISIAH JOHNSON

Yes son, you doing something that none of us could possibly go through and making us proud. More than what I could ever do for this family.

Isiah starts to cry a little bit.

Bryan puts his hand on his father's shoulder.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Hey don't beat yourself up Dad, you have done plenty for me and this family.

ISIAH JOHNSON

But I didn't do enough to keep you from having to fight this war.

BRYAN JOHNSON

And that won't change anything, I'm
just going to be gone for a while.
Maybe do what those white folks say a
lot and expand my horizons.

ISIAH JOHNSON

Yeah, I hope so son, I hope so.

Isiah and Bryan shake hands and then hug one another.

BRYAN JOHNSON

But one question?

ISIAH JOHNSON

Yeah.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Why don't you give me the watch now.

ISIAH JOHNSON

Because I don't want my watch to end
up somewhere in the jungle son.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Look pops, I ain't gonna die over
there.

ISIAH JOHNSON

Maybe, but your dumbass could forget
to tighten it around the wrist and it
fall to the ground.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Fair point.

Bryan walks up to the taxi and prepares to leave but his
mother comes running out with a camera in hand.

CLARA JOHNSON

Wait, before you go son let's get one
last photo of us all together.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Oh come on us this necessary.

CLARA JOHNSON

Very son, Very.

MARY JOHNSON
Plus this could be the last time we
see you.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Fine.

Everyone but Mary huddles up together to take the picture.

MARY JOHNSON
Now everyone say cheese.

JOHNSON FAMILY
Cheese.

Mary takes the picture.

MARY JOHNSON
Now Isiah lets switch positions so I
can get in there with them.

ISIAH JOHNSON
Whatever you say babe.

Isiah and Mary switch positions and Isiah is holding the
camera.

JOHNSON FAMILY
Cheese.

Bryan waves at the family one last time.

Bryan finally manages to get in the taxi to drive him to the
airport as his family watches on as their son is about to be
shipped off to war.

CUT TO:

INT - ARMY BASE-EARLY MORNING

Bryan is laying in the top bunk wearing a white shirt with
gray sweat pants.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)
The first week's on the base weren't
even that fun. More like hell
actually.

The Sergeant comes through the room with a bull horn.

SERGEANT MILTON

Rise in shine maggots, rise and shine.
Time for our early morning run.

PRIVATE CHANDLER

Oh come on Milton, we had like fourth
minutes left to sleep.

SERGEANT MILTON

Well get use to it because the enemy
won't give a shit about your sleep.

PRIVATE CHANDLER

Fuck.

SERGEANT MILTON

And next time, address me as Sergeant
or else you'll regret that.

PRIVATE CHANDLER

Yes Sergeant sir yes.

SERGEANT MILTON

Better now ladies hurry up and don't
make me have to come back here now.

One by one everyone starts to get out of their beds.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

Yeah it was like this sometimes. Even
earlier if you can believe that.

EXT. ARMY BASE - MORNING

Everyone starts to head out for their early run.

BRYAN JOHNSON

But as I kept on hearing a lot, the
early bird always gets the worm.

BEGIN MONTAGE

- Bryan starts to outpace everyone on the run in the morning.
- Bryan taking a shower.
- Bryan eating breakfast with some of the other African Americans that are on base.

- Bryan going through military drills with the other soldiers.
- Bryan and his fellow soldiers being pushed to complete pull ups till failure.
- Bryan and his fellow soldiers having to do pushups till failure.
- Some of the soldiers climbing under barb wire.
- They then kick the stool to make it harder for Bryan to get through.
- Bryan reading a book about Vietnamese culture and language.

END MONTAGE

CUT TO:

EXT. LOCKER ROOM - AFTERNOON

Chandler wearing only pants opens up his locker when Bryan approaches him wearing a camo shirt and pants.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Yo, what's your problem man?

PRIVATE CHANDLER
What problem Johnson?

BRYAN JOHNSON
With the other day during the obstacle course.

PRIVATE CHANDLER
Umm doesn't really ring a bell. There was a lot going on.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Underneath the Barbwire fence when it fell on me.

PRIVATE CHANDLER
Oh that, well it wasn't my fault. Must of fell on it's own.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well that is some Bullshit and you now it.

PRIVATE CHANDLER

Well what do want me to say.

BRYAN JOHNSON

To admit that you did it like a real man would.

PRIVATE CHANDLER

Well where's the proof at hotshot.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Me seeing you literally kick the leg down so it could fall on me.

PRIVATE CHANDLER

Well it's still your word against mine. And you better watch yourself with that tone.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Or what snowflake. Please come try me and make my damn day. I'm begging you.

PRIVATE CHANDLER

I would but, I think the repercussions would be more severe for you then it would for me.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Is that so.

PRIVATE CHANDLER

Yes it would be. See I'm not a racist like you think I am. I just don't like you.

Bryan stands there with a perplexed look on his face.

PRIVATE CHANDLER

So how about for the rest of our time here we just try our best to interact with each other okay. Now excuse me.

Chandler grabs his clothes from the locker leaving Johnson in the room in a fit of anger with his fist clench up.

CUT TO:

INT. MESS HALL - NOON

Bryan wearing his white shirt and camo pants is sitting down eating pork roast with a bake potato with broccoli is making conversation with another African American soldier.

Kevin is a lighter skin African American with an average build wearing a dirty white shirt and camo pants talking to Bryan.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

After that so called conversation, had with Chandler. I put my head and try to avoid more of shit.

Bryan takes a bite out of his pork roast.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O) (CONT.D)

But it wasn't all that bad, I still got to call my family sometimes. And I even got to make some new friends here like this guy here, Kevin.

KEVIN

So wait your telling me that you never listen to jazz music.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Not really. I just never got into it.

KEVIN

What about your folks back home. Now I know that they surely get their funk on with it.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Shin when I was younger they did but not lately.

KEVIN

Brother you are missing out on some tremendous music here. This is music for the soul we're talking about.

BRYAN JOHNSON

For real.

KEVIN

Yes my Brother. We're talking about some of the greats here like Charles Mingus, Miles Davis, and Ray Charles.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Huh yeah you gotta write those down for me.

KEVIN

Will do Bryan. Maybe the jazz can help you pull a couple of them fine dames back home.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Hey I am just fine in that department.

Bryan takes a sip of his water.

KEVIN

Sure you are. Got any lucky ladies back?

BRYAN JOHNSON

Not right now. There was this one back in high school but that didn't work out.

KEVIN

She didn't like your flow.

BRYAN JOHNSON

That, and she didn't like my bad boy image.

KEVIN

Ok, Ok she only into those nice boys huh.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well then she can go find plenty of them down at the old church then.

While Bryan and Kevin continue to talk, the Sergeant walks up to both men.

SERGEANT MILTON

Privates Johnson and Kevin.

Both Bryan and Kevin stand up to Salute the Sergeant.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Sergeant Milton.

KEVIN
Sergeant Milton.

SERGEANT MILTON
At Ease Gentlemen.

Both Bryan and Kevin stand square and center.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Are either of us in trouble sir?

SERGEANT MILTON
As a matter of fact no Johnson. But
you do have an important phone call to
make.

BRYAN JOHNSON
How important is it?

SERGEANT MILTON
It's your mother. She left a message
earlier saying she wanted to talk to
you regarding your father.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY- NOON.

Calvin walks down the hallway to one of the telephones to
ring up his mother.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Hey Ma.

Clara speaks to Bryan over the phone in a sad tone.

CLARA JOHNSON
Hello Son. Hope they feeding you well.

BRYAN JOHNSON
I would say about the same as the food
from school.

CLARA JOHNSON
Ha, that's funny.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yeah, but mom I heard you wanted to talk to me. What's up with pops? And why do you sound so down?

CLARA JOHNSON

Well son, Something bad has happened.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Oh shit. Are you fine? What about Mary is she okay?

CLARA JOHNSON

Yes, me and your sister are just fine.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Then what is the issue here then?

CLARA JOHNSON

It's your father. He has passed away.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Dad is dead!

CLARA JOHNSON

Yes, he's gone son.

Clara starts to cry a little bit over the phone.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Mom how did this happen. Was he sick or something?

CLARA JOHNSON

No Bryan he wasn't?

BRYAN JOHNSON

Then what happened?

CLARA JOHNSON

We don't know exactly yet. All we know is that he was here one day and gone the next.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well what's going to happen now?

CLARA JOHNSON

Now me and your sister along with some relatives from home are gathering a small service for him just like he would have wanted.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Do you want me to come? I swear that I will fight the Lord himself to get back home right now.

CLARA JOHNSON

No Bryan, we can manage. Me and your sister can handle this.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Are you sure?

CLARA JOHNSON

Yes son. And we don't want you to get in anymore trouble like you did back in school.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yes Mam. But I promise to you and Mary that I will come back and take care of the both of you. I'll take care of everything.

CLARA JOHNSON

I appreciate that son. But just focus on fulfilling your service first okay.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yes Ma. Send my love to Mary. I love you too, bye.

Bryan puts the phone back and sits down starts sobbing.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

I went ahead to file for an early release back home for Dad's funeral anyway. But the general and the Sergeant wouldn't let me. They weren't specific about why they wouldn't let me leave. So I don't know if it was a race issue or if they needed all of to stay to serve.

CUT TO:

EXT. VIETNAMESE ROAD - MORNING

An apc being driven by one of the of the privates is heading towards a local Vietnam village.

CUT TO:

INT. ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER - MORNING

While one of the privates is driving the vehicle, Privates Chandler, Johnson, Kevin, and Sergeant Milton are sitting in the back.

With all four men wearing standard US Army Tropical Combat Uniforms.

Chandler pulls a card from the deck of cards that Kevin is holding on his hands.

Kevin pulls out a card.

KEVIN

So is this your card?

CHANDLER

No.

Kevin pulls out another card.

KEVIN

Now is this the card?

CHANDLER

Still no.

Kevin pulls out yet another card.

KEVIN

Okay how about this one.

CHANDLER

It was the king actually.

KEVIN

I was actually going to point that out next.

CHANDLER

Sure you were. Can't we just play cards the normal way?

KEVIN

We could but we have no table to play them on.

CHANDLER

We can't put them on the floor then.

KEVIN

They'll probably just keep getting shuffle around due to the rough terrain of the roads.

CHANDLER

Well I'm stumped. How about you Johnson.

Bryan ignores Chandler and stares into space.

CHANDLER

Earth to Johnson.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yeah what.

CHANDLER

Do you have any ideas on what to do while we wait for our orders?

BRYAN JOHNSON

Sorry I don't. My head is kind of else where right now.

CHANDLER

Figures.

KEVIN

Chandler, give him some slack. His pops just died.

CHANDLER

Well shit Johnson I'm sorry. Do you want a hug or a pat on the ass.

BRYAN JOHNSON

I would prefer for you to shut the fuck up.

CHANDLER

Well your not the only one dealing with shit back home too.

KEVIN

Guys please stop.

CHANDLER

My mother just got diagnosed with cancer.

KEVIN

Oh shit man. I'm sorry to hear that.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Is it serious?

CHANDLER

Not quite. She's looking into treatment but you know science has only come so far right now.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Damn.

CHANDLER

And my girlfriend Melissa, dumped me. And is already going out with another man.

KEVIN

Shit Chandler. Now that right there is not a faithful woman.

CHANDLER

She was at one point. But I've been gone for so long and couldn't stand the thought of me being gone for another day. Or hearing about me getting what you guys call got.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well Chandler, my dad's dead and I don't know what awaits me when I come back home.

CHANDLER

Me neither Johnson. But all we can do right now is focus on the task at hand and leave all those at home for later. That's what real men would do.

BRYAN JOHNSON

I guess your right Chandler.

KEVIN

I hate to say it but Amen brother.

CHANDLER

And look guys, I know we haven't gone off to the best start but, let's put our shit to the side and stay alive for the people we have left at home.

BRYAN JOHNSON

I can get behind that.

Bryan extends his hand for a handshake, and Chandler accepts the shake.

SERGEANT MILTON

Well that was beautiful but if you ladies are done mending fences, get set. Because we are here now.

CUT TO:

Ext. Vietnam Village - noon

The five men exit the vehicle along with their rifles and start making their way down to the village nearby.

Chandler walks up close near Sergeant Milton.

CHANDLER

So Sergeant, why did you bring Corporal Gabe here?

SERGEANT MILTON
Because he's our Vietnamese
translator.

CHANDLER
But I myself and I hate to say it
Johnson, can speak the language very
well too.

SERGEANT MILTON
Yes but Gabe here has been studying it
longer. Since freshman year in college
to be exact.

CHANDLER
Fine. But can he handle himself in
case we get attacked.

SERGEANT MILTON
He'll suffice. Plus having an extra
body with us could be helpful.

The men approach the nearby group of folks at the center of
town.

Some of the kids nearby stop playing their game of jump rope
to look at the army men.

SERGEANT MILTON
Now men let Corporal Gabe here do the
talking. And don't do anything without
my say so.

CHANDLER
Yes Sergeant sir.

KEVIN
Yes sir.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Yes sir.

SERGEANT MILTON
Now Corporal can you do the honors
here?

CORPORAL GABE
Yes Sergeant, it'll be my pleasure.

Corporal Gabe walks up to the group of people to speak with them in their language.

CORPORAL GABE
(In Vietnamese) Hello Vietnamese folks. We are from the U.S army and we come here in peace. We just need to ask you folks some questions.

An old man wearing a green shirt with beige pants steps up.

OLD MAN
Some of us can speak your English language just fine American dog.

SERGEANT MILTON
Well then I guess you can step to the side then Gabe. I'll handle it from here.

Gabe goes to the side with along with the privates.

SERGEANT MILTON
Now folks, like my Corporal over here just said, we have come peacefully to ask you folks some questions here?

OLD MAN
Is that so American?

SERGEANT MILTON
Yes.

OLD MAN
Then why do you carry those guns here with you?

SERGEANT MILTON
Only for precaution sir. It is pretty hectic out there sir so we have to be prepared. But it won't get hectic here will it now sir?

OLD MAN
I don't know you tell me you American pig.

BRYAN JOHNSON

How about you watch your words there
old man.

SERGEANT MILTON

Private at Ease.

OLD MAN

What, you won't sick one of your dogs
on us.

SERGEANT MILTON

No, but we have reason to believe that
a communist base is here in this base
and we would like to ask if you know
of this?

OLD MAN

We have no idea what your talking
about?

SERGEANT MILTON

Are you sure about that?

OLD MAN

Yes. Are people here have made it a
point to stay out of communist
affairs. For our own safety.

SERGEANT MILTON

If that's true then you shouldn't have
any problems with me and my men
checking the premises around here
then.

OLD MAN

We do mine. So you can take your dogs
back behind you and take them back to
your terrorist country.

CHANDLER

Listen here old man. We aren't the bad
guys in this situation.

OLD MAN

No you listen to me young dog. We
share no part in this little war that
you people have decided to get
yourselves involved. Nor do we plan to
get involved.

SERGEANT MILTON

We are only here on the best interest
of our country and people.

OLD MAN

And in doing so you have poisoned many
of our people with your hazardous gas
and forced our people to move from
their very homes to places

The old man points towards both Kevin and Bryan.

OLD MAN

And you two gentlemen. Why are you
even here with these white dogs?

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well for me it was either this or the
can.

OLD MAN

You should understand our pain. Being
marginalized and spit on by these
white dogs. And then being told that
your free but really they're finding
new ways to enslaved us.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Don't make this about us man.

OLD MAN

Well someone has too since you clearly
don't have enough respect for
yourselves to do it.

Bryan attempts to launch at the old man.

Sergeant Milton holds Bryan back.

SERGEANT MILTON

That's enough. Gentlemen stop wasting
time and go search the village now.

The old man's wife wearing a purple dress with sandals steps
up to him.

OLD MAN'S WIFE

You certainly will not. You need to
leave now.

SERGEANT MILTON

We tried to ask nicely but you folks obviously don't have good hospitality though.

OLD MAN

Mister there are more of us than there are of you so if you don't leave right then..

Before the old man can finish his sentence, the Sergeant pulls out a frag grenade.

SERGEANT MILTON

You know what this is right.

The group of villagers start to step back from the men.

The Sergeant pulls the pin out but holds onto the grenade.

SERGEANT MILTON

So if you or any of you people decide to lay a hand on or my man then things will get worse for all of you very quickly.

The people freeze in fear.

SERGEANT MILTON

Are we clear?

The group of people nod their heads.

SERGEANT MILTON

Good. Men look around every inch of this area.

CUT TO:

Begins Montage:

- Bryan goes into one of the houses and checks up stairs.
- Kevin goes by two houses and checks the basement of one of the houses.
- Chandler goes comes down stairs after checking the upper floor of a house and sees a family in their scared. But continues to walk out the door.

- Gabe sees another scared family but assures them that no more harm will come to them.

END MONTAGE

CUTS TO:

EXT. VILLAGE CENTER - AFTERNOON

Bryan, Kevin, Chandler, and Gabe reconverge back to the Sergeant location.

CHANDLER
Sergeant Milton.

SERGEANT MILTON
Private Chandler, what have you gentlemen found so far?

KEVIN
Nothing so far sir.

SERGEANT MILTON
Well keep checking men. We'll strip down everything from these houses if we have to.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Excuse me Sergeant but we have checked nearly all these houses. And this Village is small so I doubt we'll really find anything here. We should probably leave here now.

SERGEANT MILTON
Are you questioning my directive Johnson?

BRYAN JOHNSON
No Sergeant, but I am just pointing out that it would be best to leave before bothering these people even more.

SERGEANT MILTON
Do you feel threatened by these pests here Johnson?

BRYAN JOHNSON
Of course not Sergeant.

SERGEANT MILTON

That's good because last time I checked, we have the fire power here. And they have sticks, rocks, and rice.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Sergeant, were not going to find anything else here. We're just wasting time at this point.

SERGEANT MILTON

We're not wasting time Johnson. And we're not leaving until we find that base and what could potentially help us end this damn war. So gentlemen back to it.

The Sergeant starts to walk away.

KEVIN

Told you he wouldn't listen Brother.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well he should. The longer we stay here the more of a target we become.

CHANDLER

Well until bullets start flying, let's get back to searching before Milton starts to chew up are asses.

The men start to scatter in opposite directions.

Suddenly a shot is heard as Gabe is shot in the shoulder and drops down.

CORPORAL GABE

Ahh shit.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Shots fired. Man down.

Bryan runs over to Gabe.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Gabe get up.

Bryan helps up Gabe.

A large group of Vietnamese men in dirty brown clothes suddenly appear from out of the bushes strapped with AK-47s. They rush in shooting at the army men.

VIETNAMESE GUNMAN

Death to the American dogs. Keep firing.

Bryan helps Gabe into one of the houses for cover.

Milton, Kevin, and Chandler run into another building.

Kevin turns around and tries to shoot at some of them.

KEVIN

Ahh. Fuck off you damn fools.

SERGEANT MILTON

Kevin. Get in here.

Kevin comes into the house with the other two men.

Bryan helps tends to Gabe.

BRYAN JOHNSON

How you feeling there Gabe?

CORPORAL GABE

Like shit. But it looks like it went through the shoulder so I'll live.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Here let me see what I can do.

Bryan rips Gabe's sleeve off and pours water on it.

CORPORAL GABE

Ah that stings.

BRYAN JOHNSON

It's just water. Now hold still.

Bryan wraps some gauze around Gabe's shoulder.

BRYAN JOHNSON

There better.

CORPORAL GABE

Yeah.

Shots are still firing in the background as Milton, Kevin, and Chandler talk to one another.

SERGEANT MILTON

What the shit happened here men?

CHANDLER

One of these japs must of squealed to the communists some how. Probably through a hidden radio.

SERGEANT MILTON

I knew these people were fucking hiding something.

KEVIN

Did any of you see Bryan or Corporal Gabe?

CHANDLER

No. Last I saw Bryan was helping up Gabe.

KEVIN

Hopefully they found some cover out there.

SERGEANT MILTON

Well men we better fight back because the enemy is already moving in on us.

CHANDLER

What do you suggest we do sir?

SERGEANT MILTON

I'll stay here and provide cover while you two go out in separate directions to take them out.

KEVIN

I would argue with that but we don't have time for that.

SERGEANT MILTON

Absolutely not so get moving. And Chandler here.

Milton hands the grenade to Chandler.

SERGEANT MILTON

Just in case.

CHANDLER

Yes sir. Let's get a move on Kevin.

Kevin heads to the left and Chandler to the right. They manage to shoot down at least three gunmen.

Meanwhile, Bryan is conversing with Gabe as he checks his gun and ammo.

CORPORAL GABE

What do you think your doing private?

BRYAN JOHNSON

I figure go out and try to shoot the shit out of some of these japs.

CORPORAL GABE

Bad call Private. Are you trying to commit suicide?

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well do you have any other options. Or do you prefer to sit here and wait for them to kill or capture us.

CORPORAL GABE

As ranking officer I say don't go out there.

Bryan takes a view of the outside.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well I see both our guys out there too so I might as well go help them. Is your shoulder good enough to hold a gun.

Gabe reaches for his sidearm.

CORPORAL GABE

I think I'll stick with the pistol for now.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Good enough. Now cover me while I make a move.

CORPORAL GABE
Fine. Now just go. And don't get
yourself killed.

Bryan runs out and shoots down some of the gunmen while
ducking for cover.

Bryan heads over to where Kevin is and provides cover.

KEVIN
Glad to see your still with us
brother.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Me too Kevin.

One by one the Vietnamese gun men go down. But continue to go
fourth.

KEVIN
Damnit these Bastards just won't quit.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Yeah we may need to treat on foot.
Because I'm running low here.

Kevin's gun runs out of bullets.

KEVIN
Shit me too.

Chandler looks at the both of them.

CHANDLER
Screw that. Real men don't quit.

BRYAN JOHNSON
We don't really have a choice here
Chandler.

CHANDLER
Yes we do.

Chandler pulls out the grenade that the general gave him.

Bryan shoots back at the gunmen and sees Chandler with the
grenade.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Chandler, what the fuck are you doing?

CHANDLER
Drastic action Private Johnson. And
tell my mother I love her.

Chandler starts to run out with the grenade.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Fuck. You idiot.

Bryan chases after Chandler.

Chandler starts gets shot down by the gunmen until he drops
to ground and rolls the grenade over to them.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Nooo.

The gunmen try to run off as the grenade goes off and pushes
Bryan back as he is knocked out unconscious.

DISSOLVES TO:

EXT. VILLAGE CENTER- AFTERNOON

Bryan starts to gain consciousness as two men start dragging
him over to where his fellow army men are currently tied up
and ready for execution.

KEVIN
Was wondering whether or not these
japs would kill you in your sleep.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Uhh. What happened?

SERGEANT MILTON
While your ass took a nap we ran out
of ammo and they cornered us.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Any chance of reinforcements coming?

SERGEANT MILTON
Not soon enough.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Shit.

SERGEANT MILTON

Well gentlemen this is not how I saw myself going out.

KEVIN

Being side by side with a pair of brothers.

SERGEANT MILTON

On my knees tied up private.

One of the gunmen makes their way over to the tied up army men.

VIETNAMESE GUNMAN

Well American dogs. We have chosen to the older one to kill first.

Two other gunmen get the Sergeant up while the main one reloads his gun.

VIETNAMESE GUNMAN

Any last ones you scum.

SERGEANT MILTON

The only scum I see here are you fucking rats.

VIETNAMESE GUNMAN

Very memorable you pig.

Before he can shoot the sergeant, a communist Humvee drives in with an middle aged gentleman in a suit wearing boots and a fancy scarf.

DON SISLEO

Gentlemen, Gentlemen. Stop what your doing. There's no need for this.

The Gunman quickly puts his gun away.

VIETNAMESE GUNMAN

Don Sisleo, it's an honor sir.

DON SISLEO

No by all means the honor is all mine.

The Gunman bows to the Don then rises back up.

VIETNAMESE GUNMAN

You are quite noble Don. Unlike these dogs right here.

DON SISLEO

I have been told. But that is not necessary men. You can go ahead and free these men.

The other gunmen start to cut open the rope and allow the army men to get up.

SERGEANT MILTON

No offense Mr. Sisleo.

DON SISLEO

Actually it's Don Sisleo.

SERGEANT MILTON

Right but what is the meaning of this?

DON SISLEO

Quite simple actually. I'm kinda like a Godfather of this Village. And I would hate to see more of my people here get hurt in the middle of your little squabble with this country.

Don Sisleo snaps his fingers and one of his men runs over to him with a bottle of water.

Don Sisleo starts to drink the water.

DON SISLEO

Sorry, I was quite parched. But wouldn't you agree.

Don Sisleo takes a look at the Sergeant's uniform.

DON SISLEO

Sergeant Milton.

SERGEANT MILTON

Yes I guess I would.

DON SISLEO

Glad that you can agree. So you and your men can go on now. Just remember not to step foot here again. Because

these our a peaceful people here who
don't partake in your Communist war.

SERGEANT MILTON
We understand. Men let's clear out
now.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Wait so your just going to let us go
like that.

SERGEANT MILTON
Johnson. Let's go.

The group start to walk away. As Bryan starts to look back at
the Don talking to the gunmen.

KEVIN
What's eating you up Bryan?

BRYAN JOHNSON
Are you not going to question what
just happened over there?

KEVIN
Maybe I should but we're still alive
aren't we?

BRYAN JOHNSON
Yeah but how could this guy just walk
in here and just take control of this
shit like he just did.

KEVIN
Well obviously these guys were just
respecting the wishes of their elders.

BRYAN JOHNSON
But like this though?

KEVIN
Brother were still alive to fight
another day and we should be thankful
for that and move on.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Right, just forget about what I said.

KEVIN
Ok.

The men walk over to their vehicle and start to drive away.

Bryan sits in the back still contemplating about the Don saving their lives.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

At the time it still left me shocked
how a man like that, dressed like that
manage to have those Vietnamese cut
throats listen and obey his every
word. I guess it just shows how power
just comes in different forms.

DISSOLVES TO:

EXT. DETROIT METROPOLITAN AIRPORT- NIGHT

The plane is showing flying down to the airport terminal.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

Eventually my time in the service came
to an end. And a month before the war
would end if you can believe it or
not. So obviously I had to get back
home and pray that things didn't
change too much since I was away.

CUTS TO:

INT. DETROIT METROPOLITAN AIRPORT- NIGHT

Bryan walks off the plane with his luggage in hand wearing
his army uniform along with a shirt and tie.

He walks around the crowd looking for his mother and sister.

Bryan's friend Calvin wearing a brown jacket along with a
blue Hawaiian shirt is sitting a bench when he spots Bryan
walking

CALVIN BRADY

Bryan, my brother from another mother.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Calvin, is that you?

CALVIN BRADY
It sure is my negro, now get over
here.

Bryan runs to hug Calvin.

CALVIN BRADY
Shit did actually get some muscles
over there.

BRYAN JOHNSON
I guess so.

CALVIN BRADY
Damn what did they have in that rice
over there. Well at least your no
longer a string bean ass negro.

BRYAN JOHNSON
At least I'm not a fat ass like you.

CALVIN BRADY
Hey watch it buddy. I've been ditching
the carbs lately.

Calvin pats his stomach.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Sure you have. Anyway did you see my
Ma and Sis. They were suppose to meet
me here when I arrived.

CALVIN BRADY
Oh yeah they're not coming.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Why not?

CALVIN BRADY
 Because I told them that I would be
 picking you up. Thought that we could
 go out first and grab a drink and
 catch up.

BRYAN JOHNSON
 Sure I guess. Not like I'm in that
 much of a rush.

CALVIN BRADY
 Oh and your ma said that she was
 making jambalaya for dinner.

BRYAN JOHNSON
 Ok now I am in a rush.

CALVIN BRADY
 Don't worry there will be plenty for
 you later now let's go.

The two men start to make their way outside the airport.

CUT TO:

EXT. DETROIT METROPOLITAN AIRPORT- NIGHT

Bryan and Calvin make their way over to Calvin's car.

BRYAN JOHNSON
 Shit Calvin. Is that really a Alfa
 Romeo Alfasud.

CALVIN BRADY
 Yes, and I'm surprise to see that you
 know your cars.

Calvin puts Bryan's luggage in the trunk.

BRYAN JOHNSON
 They got magazines over there.

CALVIN BRADY

Oh do they. Do they also got them playboys over there too.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Shit I wish. But how could you afford this though. Ain't this like an arm and a leg.

CALVIN BRADY

Shit I forget. But I got my job with the right kind of people to thank for that.

They both start to get into the car.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Is this job similar to what we use to do?

CALVIN BRADY

Not really. It's much more legit trust me.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Or does it just look legit.

CALVIN BRADY

It's legit enough. Now shut up and listen.

Calvin starts the car.

BRYAN JOHNSON

What am I suppose to be listening to.

CALVIN BRADY

This baby purring. Oh yeah now that shit is from another world baby.

BRYAN JOHNSON

I wouldn't know. It's my first time in a car like this.

CALVIN BRADY

Well once again Bryan. You stick with me and you'll get use to it eventually.

Calvin starts to drive off in the car.

CUTS TO:

Int. Local Bar - Night

Bryan and Calvin sit at a booth as a waitress walks over with two glasses and a bottle of scotch.

CALVIN BRADY

Thank you. And you can leave the bottle hot stuff.

Calvin hands her a couple more bucks for the bottle. Then pours scotch into both of their glasses.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Finally a real drink.

CALVIN BRADY

Yeah only the good stuff for me and my army hero brother.

They both raise their glasses.

CALVIN BRADY

A toast to your continuing good health.

BRYAN JOHNSON

I appreciate that.

They both clank their glasses of scotch against each other's.

CALVIN BRADY

Cheers!

BRYAN JOHNSON

Cheers!

Both men take a sip of their drinks before setting them back on the table.

CALVIN BRADY

But Bryan I got to say. I'm sorry for what happened all that time ago you know.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Hey it's in the past.

CALVIN BRADY

Yeah but you got punished and had to go over there for the white man you know.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yeah that part sucked. But at least you I got to see some new sights.

CALVIN BRADY

You did.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yeah and I got me some Vietnamese poon if you know what what I'm saying.

CALVIN BRADY

Well shit now your making me feel less bad.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well I was still called a monkey from time to time and boot camp was sucked too. I know your fat ass wouldn't like it.

CALVIN BRADY

Ah fuck you. But I will make it up to you.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Oh, how so.

CALVIN BRADY

Just come by my apartment tomorrow and I'll show you.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well okay then. I'll be there.

Bryan takes another sip of his drink.

CALVIN BRADY

So what are you going to do now?

BRYAN JOHNSON

Don't know get a job I guess. Help out my Mom and Sister.

CALVIN BRADY

Well shit my brother let me hook you up then.

BRYAN JOHNSON

With what a job.

CALVIN BRADY

Of course. My employer would love to have a guy like you in our so organization.

BRYAN JOHNSON

In what kind of department exactly?

CALVIN BRADY

Look is the department we work in isn't exactly what they call ethical. But it looks legit enough and you can earn you real good money for yourself and the fam.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yeah but I'm not trying to get pinched by the cops again.

CALVIN BRADY

And you won't. This guy has some real power and sway on his side. Power to get the cops away from you.

Calvin takes a sip of his drink.

CALVIN BRADY

Well only to a certain extent. Unless you decide to do some dumb John Wayne cowboy shit.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well between the two of us I was always the smart one.

CALVIN BRADY

Sure you are, but not by that much. But what do you say Bryan?

BRYAN JOHNSON

I still say no.

CALVIN BRADY

But Bryan, don't you want to help out your fam and buy some good shit for yourself to. Like that car that I have out there.

Calvin points to his car.

BRYAN JOHNSON

That sure is a sweet ass whip.

CALVIN BRADY

Fucking A right it is. Just think about all the good shit you can get that the white folks have brother.

BRYAN JOHNSON

It's a nice thought Calvin and I appreciate the offer but I just can't risk it right now you know.

Bryan takes another sip of his drink.

BRYAN JOHNSON

I need to find more legal means of supporting my fam.

CALVIN BRADY

Sure, and no hard feelings Bryan. But still come over to my place tomorrow for your gift.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Sure thing.

Calvin takes a look over at the clock.

CALVIN BRADY

Well it's getting late. Better take you home now.

BRYAN JOHNSON

You sure. We can stay a little longer for another drink.

CALVIN BRADY

Nah it's fine. Plus I don't want to get too drunk.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Why you meeting up with your
girlfriend later.

CALVIN BRADY
More like a friend who I pay to let me
play grab ass with.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Oh nice. Can that be my present?

CALVIN BRADY
Too late I already got dibs, ha.

CUTS TO:

EXT. JOHNSON HOME DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

Calvin drives up the Bryan's home to drop him off. Bryan
removes his luggage from his car then Calvin drives off.

Bryan walks up to his house to knock on the door.

CLARA JOHNSON
Give me one second I'll be right
there.

Clara walks up to open the door from inside the house.

CLARA JOHNSON
Bryan, my baby boy.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Hey ma.

CLARA JOHNSON
Oh dear I am so glad to have you back
home. Now give your old lady a hug.

Bryan gives his mother a hug.

CLARA JOHNSON
Oh dear, what did they feed you boys
over there?

BRYAN JOHNSON
Well you know. Vietnamese food I
guess.

CLARA JOHNSON
Well I'm still glad to have you back
home. Come in.

CUT TO:

INT. JOHNSON HOME - NIGHT

Clara and Bryan walk into the house. Clara goes to the
kitchen with Bryan putting his jacket away in the closet.

Bryan walks into the dining room and sees his sister at the
table.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Sis, how you doing?

MARY JOHNSON
Well look who it is my big strong
black army hero brother.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Oh stop. I was just doing my part.

The two siblings hug one another.

BRYAN JOHNSON
So what's going on with you?

MARY JOHNSON
You know just working and trying to
finish school.

BRYAN JOHNSON
Nice your going to be the first
Johnson to graduate from college.

MARY JOHNSON
Community college, big bro.

BRYAN JOHNSON
It still an accomplishment, and I'm
proud.

MARY JOHNSON
Thanks. So how was your time out with
Calvin.

BRYAN JOHNSON

It was fine. Had some drinks and talked about the old days a bit. I'm actually going to go see him again tomorrow.

MARY JOHNSON

Now we both know that boy is know good. He's a total bad influence for you.

BRYAN JOHNSON

He's not that bad. He's almost like a brother to me.

CLARA JOHNSON

That man is a thug and a trouble maker Bryan.

Clara walks into the dining room wearing a kitchen apron, kitchen mitts and holding a big bowl of jambalaya.

CLARA JOHNSON

But I understand that he was one of your only friends since we moved here. And had your back when you went out in the neighborhood. So I can understand why you hold him so dear to your heart.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Thanks ma. Oh is that your famous Jambalaya.

CLARA JOHNSON

It sure is. Time to dig in.

Mary and Bryan sit down while Clara fills up both their bowls with jambalaya. Bryan starts to say grace.

BRYAN JOHNSON

By the heads we all be fed, give us Lord our daily bread amen.

MARY JOHNSON

Amen.

CLARA JOHNSON

Amen.

The three start to eat their dinner.

MARY JOHNSON

So Bryan, what was it like over there in Nam.

BRYAN JOHNSON

You know it was hot, dry, mosquitos all over the place.

MARY JOHNSON

Is it as bad over there as they describe it in the news? Did you have to kill anybody over there?

CLARA JOHNSON

Mary!!

MARY JOHNSON

What? I just want to get more insight into what's going on? They damn sure won't do that for us at school.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well Mary I won't lie, yes. I didn't want to but I had too in self defense.

Bryan takes a bite out of his dinner.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Some of them folk were a bit crazy. But some of them were just innocents standing in the middle of the gunfire and bombs. It's hard say was right and wrong.

MARY JOHNSON

Sorta like a gray area huh. Just people with different agendas.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yeah I guess you can say that.

CLARA JOHNSON

Well still we are truly blessed to have you back home.

MARY JOHNSON

So do you have any plans?

BRYAN JOHNSON

Looking for work. Trying to help you two out just like I said I would after pops died.

CLARA JOHNSON

Well that would be appreciated Bryan.

MARY JOHNSON

Won't they be hard given your um record.

BRYAN JOHNSON

What record? They'll just overlook that after I tell them I'm a war veteran.

MARY JOHNSON

Oh yeah that will definitely open up the doors for you.

BRYAN JOHNSON

That's what I'm hoping.

Bryan takes another bite out of his meal.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well I'm beat. Think I'm going to hit the sack now.

MARY JOHNSON

Not yet. You need to help ma with the dishes first.

CLARA JOHNSON

Nonsense. You go get your rest. I kept your room the same as it was when you left. Oh and I almost forgot.

Clara runs over to the closet to take out a box.

CLARA JOHNSON

Your father wanted you to have it.

Bryan opens the box to find the watch that use to belong to his father.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Pa's and Grandpa's watch. Wow I almost forgot about this.

CLARA JOHNSON

He stopped wearing it after you left. Wanted to put it away for safe keeping.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yeah, but he was suppose to give me it after I returned. Said he didn't want me to accidentally lose it in the jungle.

CLARA JOHNSON

Well that does sound like him. But he still wanted you to have. As a reminder that family will always be there with you. Regardless of how hard times get for you.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Thanks ma. And good night you two.

MARY JOHNSON

Good night.

CLARA JOHNSON

Good night.

CUTS TO:

INT. BRYAN'S ROOM - NIGHT

Bryan enters his room and takes a moment to look around then sits on his bed.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Nice, first time in years I get to sleep without being surrounded by other jabronis.

Bryan then gets up to take off his clothes and strips down to his undershirt and boxers then lies down to fall asleep.

CUTS TO:

INT. BRYAN'S ROOM - MORNING

Bryan is suddenly awoken by a bad nightmare that he had about Vietnam.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Ah. Shit that didn't seem as intense
as I last remembered it.

Bryan gets up then takes a quick shower, drives off and puts on some clothes.

He goes to the dining room to have a quick breakfast before heading out the door.

CUT TO:

Ext. Johnson home - Morning

As he starts to walk out of the house he spots his sister being wounded by a man wearing sunglasses and a hat.

MARY JOHNSON

Look, we told you mister, me and my
mom need more time.

LOANSHARK

Well your not getting more time miss.
Payment's due this week and I suggest
you pay it now to save yourself the
trouble.

MARY JOHNSON

Look give us a few more days and we
can at least give you half of the
money.

LOANSHARK

We don't want half miss, we want all
of it.

The loanshark grabs Mary by the arm.

Bryan sees it and starts to run over to them.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Hey, hey.

Bryan pushes the loanshark away from his sister.

BRYAN JOHNSON

What's your problem man?

LOANSHARK

My problem's with her. Now get lost before it becomes your's too hero.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well that's my sister so if you have a problem with her then you have one with me too pal.

LOANSHARK

Oh I see. Well I'm really going to enjoy this then.

The loanshark pulls up his sleeves.

The loanshark attempts to swing at Bryan but he dodges it.

LOANSHARK

Oh so I see that some of you hoodlums have moves huh.

BRYAN JOHNSON

The fuck did you just say?

Loanshark swings again but Bryan blocks it and gives the shark a two piece.

Loanshark tries to head rush Bryan but he throws him to some nearby trash cans and then soccer kicks him in the gut.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Now Mr. Shithead, I suggest that you fuck off now before I have to say it twice.

The loanshark spits out some blood then grabs his hat from off the ground.

LOANSHARK

Oh I'll leave, but you, your sister, and your mother better have that damn

money by the end of the week. Or else you'll have bigger problems than me.

The loanshark starts to walk away.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Mary are you okay?

MARY JOHNSON

Yes, I'm fine Bryan. You didn't have to do that okay. We're not in the third grade alright.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well as long as I am still breathing I'm not going to allow anyone to fuck with you or ma. So what was this about?

MARY JOHNSON

Bryan please.

BRYAN JOHNSON

No I won't leave it alone now spill.

MARY JOHNSON

Okay look, before pa dies he put owed folks money and he put our house up as collateral in case he couldn't pay it off.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Fuck. Well why are they coming at us about it now?

MARY JOHNSON

I don't know. Maybe he used a fake name. But they came to us three months ago about it and me and ma have been trying to pay it off ever since. For Christ sake I've been working three jobs Bryan, and yet it's not enough.

Mary starts to cry a bit.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Shit, well look Mary since I'm back I can help you and ma with this problem.

MARY JOHNSON

Your not going to get into illegal
will you.

BRYAN JOHNSON

No of course not. I'm going to be here
right with you guys. Promise.

MARY JOHNSON

Okay, thanks Bryan

Bryan hugs his sister real tight.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Now look I got to head out and look
for work then meet Calvin afterwards
but I'll talk to you later ok.

MARY JOHNSON

Ok.

Bryan keeps on walking to a nearby bus stop in his
neighborhood.

CUTS TO:

INT. CALVIN'S APARTMENT- MORNING

Bryan makes his way of the address of Calvin's apartment then
makes his way over to the door to knock on it.

CALVIN BRADY

Shit hold on. It's too early for this.

Calvin comes to the door in a white undershirt and grey
sweatpants.

Calvin opens the door.

CALVIN BRADY

Bryan, glad you came. Could of been
later but it's fine come in.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Thanks Calvin. Cause I really need to
talk to you.

CALVIN BRADY

Ok so you want anything to drink.
Water, orange juice maybe some gin.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Water's fine brother.

CALVIN BRADY

Ok, somebody wants wait to get there
fuck on later.

Calvin goes to the kitchen to get Bryan a drink.

CALVIN BRADY

So what's up?

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well I wanted to ask if the job offer
still available?

CALVIN BRADY

Hold up, are you serious?

Calvin walks back in to give Bryan a glass of water.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Thanks. And yeah I'm fucking serious.

CALVIN BRADY

Well I mean shit, I'm glad but what
changed your mind?

BRYAN JOHNSON

Let's just say that my fam is in some
serious debt and could lose the house.
So I need to make some serious money
quick.

Bryan takes a sip of his water.

BRYAN JOHNSON

And I'm not gonna do that working at
the docks or bagging groceries.

CALVIN BRADY

Ok ok. Shit I'm just happy you changed
your mind. Just let me make a call
real quick.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Sure.

Calvin walks up to the telephone to make a call.

CALVIN BRADY

Hey Carlos, yeah the guy I was talking about yeah he says he wants in. Yep, yep. Okay we can definitely do that for you and the Don. Yeah see you later.

Calvin puts the phone back.

BRYAN JOHNSON

So am I good?

CALVIN BRADY

Almost, we just have to do something real quick for you to prove your worth. Do you mind getting me that bag right there.

Bryan grabs a bag and gives it to Calvin. Calvin takes out two baseball bats.

BRYAN JOHNSON

What's this for?

CALVIN BRADY

To play baseball ha. No I'm kidding we just have to bust up a few cars and maybe some heads to.

BRYAN JOHNSON

What why?

CALVIN BRADY

Because a couple of punks fucked with the Boss's driver the other day and he demands retribution so we are going to give it to them.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well shit, I already got my hands dirty before so I guess fuck it.

CALVIN BRADY

That's what I want to hear. So let me
get dress first then we'll head out.

Calvin walks into the room to get dress.

CUTS TO:

EXT. CALVIN'S APARTMENT- MORNING

Calvin now wearing his brown jacket with red shirt and black
pants along with Bryan go to Calvin's car and proceeds to get
in.

CALVIN BRADY

Oh I almost forgot. Here.

Calvin hands a old revolver over to Bryan.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Why this? I thought we were just going
to break some stuff.

CALVIN BRADY

That's only a precaution in case we
run into major trouble. Just don't
accidentally shoot yourself in the ass
with it.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Calvin look who your talking to. Shit
back over there we were holding a gun
every week.

CALVIN BRADY

And how's your aim?

BRYAN JOHNSON

Slightly above average.

CALVIN BRADY

Works for me.

Calvin starts to car and drives off.

CUTS TO:

EXT. CAR GARAGE - LATE MORNING

Calvin drives up to a nearby garage where him and Bryan jump out with bats in hand.

CALVIN BRADY
Oh yeah, also here.

Calvin hands a bandana over to Bryan.

CALVIN BRADY
Don't won't anybody to spot your pretty little face.

BRYAN JOHNSON
They'll probably be more entranced by yours more.

Calvin and Bryan unlock the door and sneak into the garage.

CALVIN BRADY
Damnit where is it. You better not have fucked up the address Carlos.

Calvin then spots two Lincoln Continental Mark IVs nearby.

CALVIN BRADY
Oh shit. Bryan over here. I found them

BRYAN JOHNSON
Wow two Lincolns. Whoever fucked your boss's driver up must have some serious dough on him.

CALVIN BRADY
Well the asshole is gonna need the dough to get a cars repaired somewhere else. Now let's get to smashing these whips.

Calvin and Bryan start bash the crap out of the cars. Breaking all the windows, the side mirrors, and putting huge dents into the side.

CALVIN BRADY
I gotta tell you Bryan, your doing very well on your first day on the job.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well I do aim to fucking please.

While the two continue to break the cars two repairmen coming back from there smoke break spot the two.

REPAIRMAN 1

Hey what the hell are you thugs doing?

REPAIRMAN 2

You messing with our livelihood you fucking punks.

They start to rush in at Calvin and Bryan but they both swing their bats at the repairmen to knock them to the floor.

CALVIN BRADY

The only person who me and my friend are fucking with here is the owner of these cars. And they deserve it.

Bryan starts to take out his revolver.

CALVIN BRADY

But don't worry it's not like you guys could have done anything with a gun pointed at you.

Bryan points his gun towards the repairmen.

CALVIN BRADY

Now run along before my friend here gets the itchy finger for the trigger.

The repairmen get up and proceed to run out of the garage.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Hmm.

CALVIN BRADY

What.

BRYAN JOHNSON

You didn't want me to shoot them.

CALVIN BRADY

Not today. Plus no need for unnecessary collateral .

BRYAN JOHNSON

Oh so your also using big words I see.

CALVIN BRADY

Ha ha bite me. I read the dictionary
from time to time. Now let's fuck off.
There's a good chance those two
pansies could of called the police.

Calvin and Bryan start to run out of the garage over to
Calvin's car.

CUTS TO:

INT: CALVIN'S CAR - NOON

CALVIN BRADY

Whoo hoo. Now that's how you fucking
start off the day.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yeah we sure did a number on there
cars.

CALVIN BRADY

No shit. Those pricks are better off
buying new cars. May even break those
repairmen legs. Out of frustration you
know.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yeah, but tell me. What is this all
about?

CALVIN BRADY

What do you mean?

BRYAN JOHNSON

The guys whose cars we just busted up,
they must have a Boss right. After
what you described, theses guys were
clearly ordered to rough up your
Boss's driver.

CALVIN BRADY

Look I won't sugar coat it. My boss
has been having problems with another

boss in the city named Caine. And he's been kind of a hand full lately.

BRYAN JOHNSON

How serious is it?

CALVIN BRADY

Nothing too bad. Just a few scuffles here and there. Neither side want to do anything drastic to start a war.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Well shit what kind of business is this here.

CALVIN BRADY

I told you it wasn't ethical. What are you getting cold feet now.

BRYAN JOHNSON

I don't agree with this but Mary and Ma still need my help so no, I'm still in if your boss agrees.

CALVIN BRADY

Good, we're heading to his spot now to see him.

CUTS TO:

Ext: Club Alonzo- noon

Calvin pulls up to a nearby parking spot in near his Boss's club.

CALVIN BRADY

Well here is where I work.

BRYAN JOHNSON

A club huh. I shouldn't have expected any less.

CALVIN BRADY

Hey it's a good spot, plus everyone's too distracted smoking and drinking to notice anything really.

The two start to walk into the club.

CUTS TO:

INT: CLUB ALONZO- NOON

The two walk into the back business room with a man play the piano in the background with a few club patrons drinking and reading the newspaper.

Calvin opens the door and sees his boss Alonzo an African American in his early 50's wearing a gray suit sitting in the chair along with his assistant Stanley around the same age and wearing a black suit.

CALVIN BRADY

Don Alonzo, Stanley. How you doing fellas.

STANLEY

Just fine Calvin, thanks for asking.

ALONZO

So is it done.

CALVIN BRADY

It sure is Boss. Those cars are never going to be driven again.

ALONZO

Ha. Excellent, that'll show the son of a bitch that we won't take his shit like a couple of pansies.

CALVIN BRADY

Yes sir Boss. And here is the guy that helped me out that I wanted to introduce you to. My best friend Bryan Johnson.

BRYAN JOHNSON

It's a pleasure to meet you Mr. Alonzo.

Bryan shakes Don Alonzo's hand.

ALONZO

Please the pleasure is mine, now please sit down we have some things to discuss.

All four men start to to sit down.

ALONZO

So Bryan, Calvin told me a lot of about you.

BRYAN JOHNSON

He has huh.

ALONZO

Yes, how you have been serving your time over in Vietnam for the past few years huh.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Yes sir, it was certainly better than the alternative for young black men like myself.

ALONZO

I'm sure it was.

BRYAN JOHNSON

But I kept my cool, followed orders, and persisted through in order to complete my service.

ALONZO

And I imagined it wasn't easy?

BRYAN JOHNSON

Definitely wasn't sir. Some sleepless nights and saw my fair share of dead bodies. Especially some that were too young to die. But sometimes I had to put that shit behind me or else it could distract me in the line of fire.

ALONZO

Yes, I respect that Bryan. And I like what I am hearing. I need men like you here and I'm willing to bring you in as a member of this family. Would you like to become a member of this family Bryan?

BRYAN JOHNSON

Absolutely Mr. Alonzo.

ALONZO

Great, and all that I ask in return is that you follow the rules. Stay loyal, and no up front confrontation with the cops if you can manage that.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Sir, Mr. Alonzo. You won't regret it and you'll never have to worry about me making bone headed moves.

ALONZO

Well that is truly wonderful to hear.

The men get up from their chairs and Alonzo hugs Bryan and pats him on the back.

ALONZO

Welcome to the family Bryan.

Stanley walks up to shake Bryan's hand.

STANLEY

Welcome Bryan.

ALONZO

You two will get paid for today's work but first let's eat.

Alonzo and Stanley start to head out the door.

CALVIN BRADY

Well Bryan, your maid man now.

BRYAN JOHNSON

Shit, I guess I am now huh. What no ceremony.

CALVIN BRADY

Don't worry that'll come later. This is just the start of the good life for the both of us brother.

BRYAN JOHNSON (V.O)

And Calvin was right, then I only wanted to help out my fam. But it soon became something more. A path to something I didn't know I wanted just yet.

The End for Now.

