

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

It is late and there is no traffic. The lights of the city are bright in the b.g. A silver Mercedes F700 speeds away from downtown.

INT. MERCEDES F700 - NIGHT

EDWARD KEYSTONE (48), drives quietly listening to CLASSIC MUSIC. His eyes are focussed on the road ahead. He seems tired of a long day at work.

He gets to a curve and tries to reduce speed.

His eyes go wide.

He swerves.

The car hits a curve but the brakes won't work. Edward hits the brakes several times to no avail.

EDWARD
Ahhhh...!!!

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

The Mercedes F700 loses control and skids, swerving and hitting the divider. The Mercedes bounces off, and flips two times, finally coming to a rest.

INT. MERCEDES F700 - NIGHT

The airbag has blown up, breaking Edward Keystone's nose. Blood is everywhere. Edward breathes, groans. He is alive.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

The Mercedes is completely crashed in a mess of iron and smoke. A white Escalade arrives and stops a few meters afar.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

The sun breaks through the mist as waves crash on the rocks. The cliffs look impressive high up from the sea.

EXT. CLIFFSIDE - DAY

ERIC SARTELLE (36), athletic and handsome, is jogging. He has an MP3 player clipped on his shorts and two earplugs coming out from the T-shirt neck.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Eric leaves the cliff and runs on a path through the woods.

EXT. UPPER CLASS SUBURBIA - DAY

Eric runs through a quiet and upper-class neighborhood.

EXT. ERIC'S HOUSE - DAY

Eric runs up to a three-storey house. A wooden canopy protects an Aston Martin and a late model BMW.

INT. ERIC'S HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

VIOLET (32) is sleeping. Eric kisses her.

ERIC
Wake up, Sleeping Beauty.

VIOLET
You're not human? Who gets up so early to go running?

ERIC
You used to. Every morning.

There is a pause, as if Violet forgot something.

VIOLET
I'll get back in shape, promise.

ERIC
It's been six months since your operation. The doctor says it would be good to get back to your routines, especially exercise.

VIOLET
OK, but not today.

Eric laughs.

ERIC
You're the one who got me into fitness, remember?

Violet holds up her finger to her lips.

VIOLET
Shhh... let me go back to sleep...

ERIC
 (shakes his head)
 And you never liked sleeping so
 much.

VIOLET
 I do now...

Eric laughs to himself, continuing into the bathroom.

INT. ERIC'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - MORNING

Eric exits the shower. He takes a towel and dries off his legs, revealing a big scar on his right calf.

He puts the towel around his hip and starts shaving while eyeing the financial news network on a small TV mounted on the wall.

MARK (TV)
 ... DOW and NASDAQ are both up big again this morning. In other news, one of the leaders of our city's financial titans was in a devastating car accident.

The TV shows ANGELA THOMAS (30) reporting from outside HUNTINGTON HOSPITAL.

ANGELA (TV)
 We're outside Huntington Memorial Hospital, where Edward Keystone, CEO of Eastern Federal Savings, is currently recovering from the accident.

The TV shows a picture of EDWARD KEYSTONE followed by a picture of the crashed Mercedes F700 being towed off highway. The image cuts back to Angela.

ANGELA (TV) (CONT'D)
 Edward Keystone had a single car accident last night after leaving his downtown office. It's a miracle that he survived after seeing the state in which the car was. But doctors say that he was lucky and his life is not in danger. (beat) Angela Thomas, New York.

On TV appears a commercial: JAMESON AND BURTON and their PHONE NUMBER superimposed over DR. RANDOLPH JAMESON (62), dressed in three-piece suit behind a desk in elegant office.

JAMESON (TV)
 Successful people are not immune to stress.

(MORE)

JAMESON (TV) (CONT'D)
 Prolonged high levels of stress can affect your mental health and lead to deadly depression. If you are feeling stressed, call us here at Jameson and Burton. We specialize in business professionals. We are the psychiatrists that can make a difference in your life.

Eric turns off the TV.

INT. ERIC'S HOUSE - NADIA'S BEDROOM - MORNING

NADIA (6) sleeps. Eric sits on her bed, kissing her forehead.

ERIC
 Hey Princess.

NADIA
 Daddy!!

Nadia throws her arms around Eric's neck, hugging him tightly. Eric beams. He squeezes Nadia back.

NADIA (CONT'D)
 Did you make me breakfast again?

ERIC
 Yup.

NADIA
 Is mommy awake?

ERIC
 Not yet. She's tired. Being a mom is hard, you know?

NADIA
 I liked it when she used to wake me up with pancakes?

ERIC
 I know, sweetie. Just give her a bit of time to recover. Operations are tough. You remember how I was?

There is a little pause.

NADIA
 Can I see it?

Eric stands up and shows her a big scar all along his right calf.

NADIA (CONT'D)
 Is it true that they put you some iron inside the leg?

ERIC
(smiling)
Kind off.

NADIA
So you are stronger on your right
leg now?

ERIC
Yes. It's called bionic leg. That's
why I have to run. To get in good
shape or it will get rusty.

Nadia and Eric LAUGH.

ERIC (CONT'D)
Let's go now or you'll be late at
school.

EXT. ERIC SARTELLE ARCHITECT BUILDING - PARKING - DAY

Eric parks his Aston Martin in front of a modern building.
The main signage reads: "ERIC SARTELLE - ARCHITECT".

INT. ERIC SARTELLE ARCHITECT BUILDING - RECEPTION - DAY

Eric enters a luxurious hall surrounded by a big reception
desk. Around the room are pictures of modern buildings. An
attractive receptionist, MAYRA (24), welcomes Eric.

MAYRA
Good morning, Mister Sartelle.

ERIC
Hi, Mayra. How was your night?

MAYRA
Fine, thanks. Your brother is in
your office.

Eric rolls his eyes.

ERIC
I thought I told you to call the
cops when he shows up.

Mayra laughs.

MAYRA
He's nice to me.

ERIC
He's nice to all pretty girls!

Eric walks towards the end of the corridor.

INT. ERIC'S OFFICE - DAY

Large, modern, well decorated. Eric enters and sits at his desk. A BEEP, then a secret door in the wall opens as GEORGE SARTELLE (32), a handsome, well-dressed man, opens a little gate that was camouflaged among the marks on the wall.

GEORGE
Surprise!!

ERIC
(indifferent)
Will you ever get tired of playing
hide and seek?

GEORGE
I told Mayra not to say anything.

ERIC
I'll remind you that I pay her.

GEORGE
Why don't you make one of these for
my office? They're great!

George closes the door of the strongroom.

ERIC
You don't need a strongroom. You're
not that important. Nor rich.

GEORGE
Why do you have it then?

ERIC
To avoid you. And it's a mock up
for potential clients. Why aren't
you at work? You're my financial
advisor. Go make me money.

GEORGE
I spent last night with my
secretary. I really don't want to
see her.

Eric can't help but laugh. He shakes his head in disbelief.

ERIC
Will you ever get settled.

GEORGE
What for?

ERIC
To avoid this kind of situations,
for example.

GEORGE
Let's go to lunch.

ERIC
It's too early.

GEORGE
Champagne brunch.

ERIC
No, I have work and appointments.

GEORGE
Are you working on a rich man's
bomb shelter in Hawaii? If so, I'm
traveling with you to ensure the
work is done correctly.

George approaches his brother's desk and sees many documents scattered all over. He takes one paper randomly. It has a photo of a beautiful new office building: SUPRANOBLE.

GEORGE (CONT'D)
Supranoble? That new building
downtown? You worked on that?

ERIC
Strongrooms. But that's all
confidential info. So no, I didn't.

Eric takes the paper off his brother's desk.

GEORGE
With these strongrooms you design I
suppose you work with interesting
clients, don't you?

ERIC
You'd be surprised to know how
boring millionaires can be. And
don't ask. It's confidential. Now,
please, let me get some work done.

George nods, then gestures back to the strongroom.

GEORGE
You don't mind if I nap in there?

INT. ERIC'S HOUSE - NADIA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Eric gives a good night kiss to Nadia. She is in bed ready to sleep.

ERIC
Good night, Moon.

NADIA
Good night, Daddy.

INT. ERIC'S HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

Eric and Violet read. She leans up, kissing him.

VIOLET
Let's go on vacation.

ERIC
Where?

VIOLET
Somewhere Caribbean. Just a week.
Or two. Just you and I. We'll get a
babysitter.

ERIC
Without Nadia?

VIOLET
You know how it goes when the three
of us travel? It's tiresome.

ERIC
We do everything together. You said
you'd never want to leave her for
more than a day.

VIOLET
Yeah, but she's older, and she'll
be fine. I need to get away.

ERIC
You hate traveling.

VIOLET
Yes, but the Caribbean deserves the
effort.

ERIC
I have a busy few months coming up.
I can't take any time off now.

VIOLET
All that work isn't worth it. Not
if I never see you.

ERIC
That's how I pay for a vacation.

Violet nods, disappointed. She lays back down.

VIOLET
We'll see you around Christmas.

ERIC
That's not fair.

VIOLET
Breakfast with Nadia and a bedtime
story is what you give her. And,
that's more time than I get.

ERIC
Are you sure it's not menopause?

Eric laughs. Violet glares at Eric.

VIOLET
That's not even funny.

Eric hugs Violet. She pulls away.

ERIC
Bad joke, I'm sorry. It's just
that... You know, all this is new
for me. I'm just not used to the
new you.

VIOLET
Good night.

Eric wants to argue. Violet turns over. Eric nods, holds in
his arguments.

INT. ERIC'S HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

Eric wakes. Violet is already up. Eric bolts up, and looks at
his clock on his phone.

INT. ERIC'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Violet and Nadia eat cereal. Eric comes down, ready to run.

NADIA
Daddy!

ERIC
Good morning, sweeties.

VIOLET
I thought you might be resting
today, sleeping in for once.

ERIC
Never! The run gets the blood
going. Gotta keep the routine.

Eric kisses Nadia's cheek and Violet's lips.

ERIC (CONT'D)
I'm glad you're finally out of bed
so early.

VIOLET
Gotta get back to the routine.

Violet laughs. Eric keeps kissing Violet without any
intention to stop. Violet smiles and pushes him out gently.

NADIA
Daddy, we're going to the zoo!

ERIC
You'll see the panda bears! And the
rhinos. And the hippopotamuses!

VIOLET
Remember the appointment with the
decorator.

ERIC
So, you decided to go forward with
that?

VIOLET
I'd like to change it.

ERIC
We just changed everything two
years ago.

VIOLET
I know but I don't like it anymore.
We're not having this argument
again. He's coming. Are you?

ERIC
I'll be here, don't worry.

VIOLET
I've changed it for two o'clock.

ERIC
Two o'clock? You said five o'clock.

VIOLET
Nadia's dentist called. They gave
us a four o'clock appointment.

Eric nods. Violet kisses Eric. He smiles.

ERIC
Okay. I'll be here at two.

Eric kisses Violet again and then Nadia.

ERIC (CONT'D)
Say hello to the chimps, okay?

Eric goes to the entrance door mimicking a monkey. Nadia laughs and Violet smiles while shaking her head.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Eric is running on a dirt track.

EXT. CLIFF - DAY

The dirt track finishes. The impressive cliff opens to the sea. It is windy. Eric keeps running.

CHRISTIAN PETER FOGSON (36) is close to the edge of the cliff. He wears a brown overcoat. A black suitcase is at Fogson's feet. Eric stops running as he sees Christian facing the ocean.

ERIC
Hey! It's dangerous to be so close
to the cliff with the wind.

Fogson takes a step closer to the cliff, and turns.

FOGSON
Check the yellow envelope.

Eric pauses. It is like looking in a mirror. Fogson has the same body build, haircut and facial features as Eric. They could almost be twins.

Fogson's and Eric's eyes meet. Then, Fogson jumps.

ERIC
NOOOOO!!!

Fogson's body slams onto the rocks below. He is dead.

Eric approaches the cliff and sees the waves taking the body from the rocks and pulling it into the ocean.

Eric checks if there is a way to walk down the cliff, but there is no access. Eric eyes the suitcase that Fogson left.