

There IS a Dark Side

By

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Jackson (Jacks) Parker - Anthony Mackie type, stern look, strong will.

Randy Dawson (Jackson's childhood friend) - Easy going, smart.

Pop - John Parker, Jackson's Father, smart, easy going.

DZ (David Parker, Jackson's Uncle) - DMX type, stern look, willing to do anything to get what he wants.

Fade in:

INT. CLUB - NIGHT

Jackson is walking through a club saying Hi to people as he walks through.

Jackson sees a group of friends and makes his way over to their table. Jackson greets a few at the table then sees Randy standing by the stage watching the band that is playing.

Jackson makes his way over to Randy and just stands there.

Randy is smiling and enjoying the band when Randy looks at Jackson then goes back to watching the band. Randy looks again and then goes back to watching the band.

Randy's smile fades and his body stiffens as he can feel Jackson watching him. Randy looks at Jackson with a stern look on his face.

RANDY

Is there something I can do for you?

Jackson just stares.

Randy leans back a little.

RANDY

You got a problem?

JACKSON

I don't have a problem.

RANDY

Well you're staring at me as if I owe you money.

JACKSON

I'm pretty sure we're square.

Randy takes a long look at Jackson.

RANDY

Jackson?

JACKSON

I was afraid you did not remember me.

Randy gives Jackson a big hug and steps back.

RANDY

How can I forget my best friend?

JACKSON

Well we haven't been very friendly the past six years or so.

RANDY

You're right, we haven't. When my parents moved across town it felt like we moved across the country.

JACKSON

I'm in here once a week and have not see you here.

RANDY

I've been working with the band helping them gets some songs recorded. They invited me.

Jackson looks back towards his friends then back at Randy.

JACKSON

I've got a group of friends that have a table over here. You want to join us?

RANDY

Sure.

Jackson and Randy make their way back to the table, sit down, and begin talking.

JACKSON

So, what have you been up to?

RANDY

I'm trying to finish school. I'm managing the studio in the school and work part time for two studios in town.

JACKSON

Still doing the music thing.

RANDY

Yes, I am. And I still can't play an instrument or sing. But I love helping create music.

JACKSON

That's cool.

RANDY

You?

JACKSON

I put in a couple of years of college then hooked up with an advertising agency. They liked my ideas and brought me in. I'm doing pretty well actually.

RANDY

So, do you have a big place up in Hollywood?

JACKSON

No, I can't leave Watts, not while my Father is still alive.

RANDY

I understand. How is he?

JACKSON

Old.

Randy and Jackson laugh.

RANDY

He was never to old to kick our asses when we got into trouble.

JACKSON

Ya, but now he's kicking my nieces and nephew's butts. You can't tear him away from those grand kids.

RANDY

If it wasn't for your Father, there's a dozen kids that would have ended up dealing drugs or dead. He kept a lot of kids from going down the wrong path.

JACKSON

He sure did. So, what are you doing with this band?

RANDY

I've been working with them for about a year. I got them into the studio at school and then into one of the studios I work at. They've come a long way in just a year and starting to get offers to front a few country wide tours. I don't think it will be long before a contract offer comes rolling in.

JACKSON

Wow, you're moving up.

RANDY

I'm hoping to make it a full-time gig once I get out of school.

JACKSON

That's great, I mean it, really great. Hey it's Saturday tomorrow. Why don't

you come by my place and we'll go get
some breakfast?

RANDY

Sounds good. Text me you address.
What time?

JACKSON

Say around 9?

RANDY

I'll be there.

EXT. SMALL APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Randy pulls up and parks. He gets out of his car and walks
into the building.

INT. APARMENT BUILDING HALLWAY - DAY

Randy walks up and knocks on a door. Jackson answers the
door.

RANDY

Morning.

JACKSON

Morning.

Jackson comes out of the apartment and locks the door
behind him. Jackson points down the hall

JACKSON

Let's go.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Jackson and Randy are walking down the street talking. The
street is run down with stores closed.

RANDY

You weren't kidding. You didn't move
away.

JACKSON

I told you I could not leave my POP.
He taught us about loyalty and loyalty
learned is not forgotten, it's
returned.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Jackson and Randy walk past a park with kids playing in the
playground area. Randy stops and Jackson stops also.
Randy points to a man sitting at park table.

RANDY

Is that your Pop?

JACKSON

Sure is.

RANDY

He's sitting in the same spot he sat in
when we were kids.

JACKSON

He owns that spot now. And he's out
here every day like when we were kids.
Watching everything that goes on and
keeping an eye on the kids.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Jackson and Randy walk up to where Pop is sitting. Pop
looks up.

POP

Hey Jacks, who you got here?

Pop points to Randy.

POP

Randy Dawson, its been a while, where
you been?

RANDY

Going to school.

POP

Well you got out of here so stay out.

RANDY

I'll try.

POP

You show up back here and I'll kick you
ass.

JACKSON

Told you. Still looking out for the
kids.

POP

Have a seat.

Jackson and Randy sit down. Jackson sniffs the air.

JACKSON

Pop, you been smoking weed?

POP

You know I need it for medicinal
purposes.

Pop smiles.

JACKSON

That's what you use to say when we were
kids.

POP

Well you go fight in some foreign land
and get shot, see if you don't need
some medicine.

RANDY

You never told us you about that.

POP

Not much to say. I was stationed in
Beirut before the bomb attack.
Occasionally, a sniper would shoot at
us from a rooftop. I was walking

through the compound on day when a sniper opened fire. Got me with the first shot.

Pop pulls his sleeve up to show the wound.

POP

I was shot right through the arm, broke the bone. The sniper hit another guy in the leg. We were flown out to Germany and from there, home.

Pop pulls his sleeve down.

JACKSON

Well at least the medicine is legal now.

Pop looks around and smiles.

POP

It would be if I got it from one of those dispensaries. What have you been up to Randy?

RANDY

I'm finishing up school. I run the recording studio at school and work part time for a couple recording studios.

POP

Sounds like you found you way to get away from this mess.

Randy looks around.

RANDY

The old neighbor hood doesn't seem as bad as it was when we were going up.

POP

There's still some bad elements around here. You know I use to work in a recording studio up north in San

Francisco before I came down here.
That's where I met Tupac.

RANDY

You met Tupac? Tupac Shakur?

POP

Ya, he came in the studio and recorded
some songs. You know I even did a
little rapping myself.

Jackson rolls his eyes and begins to laugh.

JACKSON

You were a rapper?

POP

I did a little. Randy, let me get your
number, I might have something for you.

Randy pulls a business card out of his pocket and hands it
to Pop. Pop takes the business card and puts it in his
pocket.

POP

So, what are you boys doing?

JACKSON

We're heading out to breakfast. You
want to joint us?

Pop looks at his watch.

POP

More like lunch. I ate my breakfast at
6am.

JACKSON

Well, we're going to get something to
eat. You take care.

Jackson and Randy get up. Randy places his hand on Pop's
shoulder.

RANDY
Take care Pop.

Pop points at Randy.

POP
I'll be talking to you.

Jackson and Randy walk away.

INT. RANDY'S CAR - DAY

Randy is driving down a city street when his phone rings and Randy answers it.

RANDY
This is Randy.

POP (O.S)
This is Pop. Jacks's Father.

RANDY
Hey Pop, what's up?

POP (O.S)
You said you work in a recording studio.

RANDY
I do, and I manage the one at my school.

POP (O.S)
I have these old tapes that were made in a studio when I was up in San Francisco. I've got no way to listen to them. Do you think you could transfer the music from these taps to a CD?

RANDY
Shouldn't be a problem. I can digitize them so you can listen to them on your phone.

POP (O.S)

Well I don't know how that works but I sure would like to get them off the tapes.

RANDY

How bout I meet you in the park in the morning, you give me the tapes and I'll bring you back a CD by the end of the day.

POP (O.S)

What time?

RANDY

Say, 8 o'clock?

POP

Ok.

Randy ends the call.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Pop is sitting at the park table with a large brown paper bag sitting next to him. Randy pulls up and Pop sees him. Pop gets up with the bag and walks to Randy's car.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Pop walks up to Randy's car. Pop seems nervous.

RANDY

Morning Pop.

POP

Morning.

Randy looks at the bag.

RANDY

Are those the tapes?

POP

Yes.

Randy reaches out his hand, but Pop does not hand the bag to him.

POP

It's not that I don't trust you it's just that if something happens to these tapes, the songs are gone.

Randy puts his hand down. (pause)

RANDY

How many songs are on the tapes?

POP

There are four tapes and I think there's three songs on each tape.

RANDY

Well that should not take too long to digitize. Why don't you come with me?

POP

Where you going?

RANDY

I have full access to the recording studio at school. I can convert the tapes there.

Pop looks around then back at Randy.

POP

Ok.

Pop gets in the car and they drive away.

INT. SCHOOL RECORDING STUDIO - DAY

Randy opens the door and turns on the lights as he walks in followed by Pop who is carrying the paper bag.

Randy walks over to a console with a tape recorder and sits down. Randy begins turning on equipment. Randy looks over at Pop who is standing there. Randy pulls a chair over and motions for Pop to sit down.

RANDY

Have a seat.

Pop sits down still holding the bag. Randy reaches out his hand.

RANDY

Ok, lets see what you have?

Pop hands Randy the bag. Randy takes the four tapes out and sets them on the counter.

RANDY

Wow, sixteen track tapes. These are really old school. I haven't seen many of these.

POP

Can you copy the music off of them?

RANDY

No problem.

Randy takes one of the tapes, puts it on a tape recorder and begins to work. Randy moves to a computer on the console and works. The tape begins to spin, and you can see graphs on the computer screen begin to move.

RANDY

It looks like you have some good tapes. You want to hear it?

POP

Sure.

Randy turns a few knobs on the console and old school Rap music begins to play from the speakers. Randy begins to move his head to the music.

RANDY

I'm not really into old school Rap but it sounds good. You could Rap.

Pop smiles.

INT. SCHOOL RECORDING STUDIO - DAY

Randy is working on the computer as Pop puts the tapes back into the paper bag.

RANDY

So, you want me to put this on a CD?

POP

Isn't that what they do with music?

RANDY

Well, not really. Now everything is digital.

POP

I don't understand.

RANDY

I converted the songs on the tapes to digital music. Something you would listen to on your phone or over the Internet. But I can burn it to a CD so you can listen on your CD player.

POP

I don't have one of those.

Randy sits there thinking.

RANDY

I could put the music on your phone.

Pop pulls his flip phone out of his pocket and Randy looks at the flip phone.

RANDY

Ya, I don't think that is going to work.

POP

I've been looking to get a new phone.

Randy turns around and opens a desk drawer. He pulls out a thumb drive then turns back around and holds the thumb drive up.

RANDY

I could put the music files on a thumb drive.

POP

What's that?

RANDY

It's a way of storing computer files. I converted the songs from your tapes to music files that can be played on phones, computers, iPads.

Pop interrupts Randy.

POP

My granddaughter has an iPad.

RANDY

Well she could plug this thumb drive into the iPad and play the music.

POP

So, you can't put the music on a CD?

RANDY

I can, but if you don't have a CD player how would you listen to it?

POP

I guess you're right.

RANDY

Once you have the music on a thumb drive you can take it with you, and we'll figure out something.

POP

Ok.

Randy turns to the computer, plugs the thumb drive in and goes to work.

INT. RANDY'S CAR - DAY

Randy and Pop pull up to the park. Pop is holding the paper bag in his lap.

RANDY
Back safe and sound.

POP
Thanks for doing this for me.

RANDY
No problem. You have the thumb drive?

Pop pulls the thumb drive from his pocket and shows it to Randy then puts the thumb drive back in his pocket.

RANDY
Just hold on to that and when you get a smart phone you give me a call. I'll show you how to put the songs on the phone.

Pop gets out of the car with the paper bag. Pop bends over and looks in the side window.

POP
Thanks again.

RANDY
You're welcome.

Pop stands up and Randy drives away.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Pop is waiting at the curb when a school bus pulls up. Pop's GRANDDAUGHTER and GRANDSON get off the bus. Pop waves to the bus driver. His Granddaughter and Grandson walk with Pop into the park to the table where Pop sits.

POP
How was school?

GRANDDAUGHTER
Good. We're working on math a lot.

Pop watches as both the Granddaughter and Grandson take off their backpacks and place them on the table. Pop looks at his Grandson

POP
How about you?

GRANDSON
We watched a movie in school, the Lion King.

POP
The Lion King, we didn't get to watch movies like that when I was in school.

The Grandson runs off to play on the playground equipment. The Granddaughter begins to follow.

POP
Wait a minute.

The Granddaughter stops and turns around.

GRANDDAUGHTER
What?

POP
Do you have your iPad?

GRANDDAUGHTER
It's in my backpack.

POP
Can you play music on your iPad?

GRANDDAUGHTER
Sure I can.

Pop pulls the thumb drive from his pocket and holds it up.

GRANDDAUGHTER

I have music on this thing. Can you play it on your iPad?

GRANDDAUGHTER

No problem. I'll show you how.

The Granddaughter walks back to the table and pulls the iPad from her backpack. She holds her hand out and Pop hands her the thumb drive. She sits down.

GRANDDAUGHTER

Have a seat.

Pop sits down next to her. The Granddaughter plugs the thumb drive into the iPad and begins swiping the screen and music begins to play.

GRANDDAUGHTER

Our Mother doesn't want us listening to Rap music.

POP

Well these are my songs. Can you tell me how many songs are on this thing?

The Granddaughter looks at the screen and counts.

GRANDDAUGHTER

Twelve, there are twelve songs on your chip.

POP

How do I listen to all the songs?

GRANDDAUGHTER

It will play then one by one until the end.

POP

Can I use your iPad to listen to them while you play?

GRANDDAUGHTER

Sure, just don't pull the thumb drive out until they are done, or the music will stop.

The Granddaughter gets up and runs off to play on the playground equipment leaving Pop sitting there listening to the music.

INT. POP'S DAUGHTER'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Pop and his Daughter TERESA are sitting on the couch in the living room watching TV. The kids are sitting on the floor watching TV also. There is a slow knock on the door. Teresa gets up and leaves the room to answer the door. You can hear Teresa talking to someone. DZ, Pop's Brother enters the room followed by Pop's Daughter. Pop looks at DZ but does not say anything. DZ looks at Pop.

DZ

JD.

Pop nods his head. DZ walks over to the kids and pulls out a big roll of money.

Teresa sits down on the couch.

DZ pulls off two one-dollar bills.

DZ

You kids doing good in school?

GRANDDAUGHTER

We are uncle.

DZ hands each child a dollar bill then puts the roll of money in his pocket.

DZ walks towards the living room doorway then turns and looks at Pop with a blank look on his face.

Pop looks at DZ with contempt.

DZ

Well I only stopped to say hello. I need to get going.

TERESA

Ok. We'll see you Unk.

DZ leaves the living room and you can hear the door open and close.

POP

I don't know why you let him in the door.

TERESA

He's always been nice to me.

POP

He always is until you have some money and he finds out.

TERESA

I don't know why you can't be civil to your own brother.

Pop does not respond.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Teresa is walking down the street carrying a bag of groceries.

DZ pulls up in his car.

Teresa looks in the car window and sees DZ. Teresa walks up to the car.

TERESA

What's up Unk?

DZ

Nothing. What are you doing?

TERESA

Just heading home with something for dinner.

DZ

Where's the kids?

TERESA

With Pop in the park. Why didn't you stick around the other night?

DZ

I have no interest in spending time with my Brother.

TERESA

You two have got to work that out.

DZ

You need a ride?

Teresa looks down the street then back at DZ.

TERESA

Sure, can you drop me off at the park so I can get the kids?

DZ

No problem, get in.

Teresa gets in the car and DZ drives away.

INT. DZ'S CAR - DAY

DZ

So, what has my brother been up to?

TERESA

You know him. He works, he comes home, and he watches the kids in the park.

Teresa gets an odd look on her face.

TERESA

He was on the phone the other night
with someone talking about music.
Something about songs he has or
something.

DZ shakes his head and does not respond.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Pop is sitting at his table keeping an eye on the kids
playing in the park as DZ and Teresa pull up. Teresa gets
out of the car carrying the bag of groceries and walks up
to the table. Pop watches as DZ drives away.

POP

What are you doing with him?

TERESA

He gave me a ride back from the store.

Teresa looks at the kids playing in the park

TERESA (LOUDLY)

Come on kids, let go.

Teresa looks at Pop.

TERESA

You want to come over for dinner?

POP

No, I'm good.

TERESA

Ok then.

The Granddaughter and Grandson come running up and gather
their things.

GRANDDAUGHTER

See you Pop.

GRANDSON

Ya, see you Pop.

Teresa and the kids walk away.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Pop is sitting at his table reading the paper when DZ walks up and sits down.

Pop looks at DZ out of the corner of his eye and goes back to reading the paper.

POP

What do you want?

DZ

Can't a guy just want to sit down?

Pop continues to read the paper as DZ looks off into the distance.

DZ

Do you remember when you moved down from San Francisco?

Pop does not respond.

DZ

You told me you had recordings of Tupac that no one else had.

Pop does not respond.

DZ

Do you remember that?

POP

I don't know what you're talking about.

DZ leans on the table and looks at Pop who continues to read the paper.

DZ

I remember it very well and I think you do to. Do you still have those recordings?

Pop is getting nervous and turns the page to the paper.

POP

I told you I don't know what you are talking about.

DZ

I think you do. I heard you've been talking to a music producer. I have some friends in the music business. If you give those recordings to me, I'm sure I can get you some money for them. It would give you a chance to help out Teresa.

POP

Don't you worry about Teresa and I told you I don't know what you are talking about. Now get out of here.

DZ knocks his knuckles on the table.

DZ

Ok, ok.

DZ gets up and walks away. Pop folds the paper and sets the paper on the table. Pop sits there staring off into the distance in thought.

EXT. REAR OF OLD DESERTED BUILDING - DAY

Pop is standing looking at an old trash can and thinking. He has a large paper bag under his arm. Pop pulls the bag from under his arm and dumps the recording tapes into the trash can. Pop then takes the thumb drive out of his pocket and looks at it then places it back into his pocket.

Pop pulls out a can of lighter fluid and pours it into the trash can. He takes out a pack of matches, strikes one and lights the whole pack on fire. He throws the lit pack of matches into the trash can and it erupts into flames.

Pop stands there watching as the recordings burn.

INT. APPARTMENT BUIDING HALLWAY - NIGHT

Pop walks up to his apartment door and puts his key into the deadbolt then stops.

Pop runs his hand on the door looking at gouge marks. It looks like someone tried to pry the door to the apartment open.

Pop looks up and down the hallway then turns the key, opens the door and walks in.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Pop is sitting at his table watching the kids play. Pop reaches into his pocket and pulls something out of his pocket. He reaches under the table then places his empty hands on top of the table.

A YOUNG MAN (Slider) approaches carrying a paper bag and sits down at the table. Slider places the paper bag on the seat between himself and Pop.

SLIDER

What's up Pop?

Pop looks at Slider.

POP

Do I know you?

SLIDER

I'm Slider, I use to play in this park when I was a kid.

Pop takes a long look at Slider then goes back to watching the kids.

POP

I don't remember you.

SLIDER

You're just getting old.

Slider looks around and sees a food truck. Slider gets up.

SLIDER

I'm going to get me some tacos. Watch my bag.

Slider walks away. Pop looks at the bag then goes back to watching the kids.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

A car pulls up and two men get out. They walk towards Pop sitting at the table.

Pop sees the two men as they approach. Man 1 pulls out a badge and shows it to Pop.

MAN 1

We're detectives. Can you tell me what is in the bag?

Pop looks at the bag.

POP

I don't know it's not mine. It belongs to someone else.

DETECTIVE 1

And where is this person?

Pop turns around and points towards the food truck but does not see Slider. Pop puts his hand down.

POP

He headed over to the food truck for something to eat.

The two detectives look over towards the food truck then back at Pop.

DETECTIVE 1

There's no one there. Can you tell us his name?

POP

He said his name was Slider or something like that.

Detective 2 reaches over and picks up the bag. Detective 2 opens the bag then looks at Detective 1.

MAN 2

Looks like about four ounces of marijuana in here.

MAN 1

Sir can you stand up and put your hands on your head. You're under arrest for the position of a controlled substance with the intent to distribute.

INT. TERESA'S APPARTMENT KITCHEN - DAY

Teresa is in the kitchen making dinner when she hears the door open and slam shut.

The Granddaughter and Grandson come running into the kitchen.

GRANDDAUGHTER

Momma, Momma they arrested Pop.

TERESA

What are you talking about? Where's Pop?

GRANDDAUGHTER

Two police officers arrested Pop and took him away in a car.

GRANDSON

They arrested him.

TERESA

You two go in the living room and watch TV. I'll take care of this.

The Granddaughter and Grandson leave the kitchen. Teresa takes her phone out of her pocket and swipes a few times.

INT. JACKSON'S CAR - DAY

Jackson is driving down the street when his phone rings.

JACKSON

Hello?

TERESA (O.S)

The kids came running in without Pop,
saying the police arrested him.

JACKSON

Arrested who? Pop?

TERESA (O.S)

They said two police officers took him
away in a car. Where are you?

JACKSON

That doesn't sound right. I'm right
down the street I'll be there in five
minutes.

INT. TERESA'S APARTMENT KITCHEN - DAY

Teresa is cooking at the stove. You can hear the door open
and close. Jackson comes walking in.

JACKSON

What's going on?

TERESA

Pop called the kids over before they
put him in the car and told the kids to
come tell me what happened.

JACKSON

I know someone who works at the police
station. I'll call them.

Jackson pulls out his cellphone and calls a number.

JACKSON

Hi, this is Jackson. My Father was
arrested and I'm trying to find out
why. (pause) John Jackson (pause) That

can't be right, he's not a drug dealer.
(pause) Ok, thank you.

Jackson ends the call and puts the phone in his pocket.

JACKSON

He said Pop was arrested with a large quantity of marijuana and is being charged with possession with the intent to distribute. They are also expecting to add a position within a drug free zone because of the park.

TERESA (LOUDLY)

Pop is no drug dealer.

JACKSON

Keep your voice down, the kids.

TERESA

I know he smokes pot, but he would never deal drugs.

JACKSON

They are processing him so I can't see him until tomorrow. I'll go see him in the morning and find out what is going on.

Jackson walks over and puts his arms around Teresa.

INT. COUNTY JAIL VISITATION AREA - DAY

Pop is sitting at a table as Jackson walks up to the door. An officer checks Jackson's ID and allows him to enter.

Jackson walks up to where Pop is sitting. Pop stands with some difficulty and Jackson hugs Pop. They both sit down, Pop does so slowly.

JACKSON

What's wrong.

POP

I've been having some problems with my gut and this whole thing has only made it worse.

JACKSON

How did this happen?

POP

I don't know.

JACKSON

Come on Pop. What happened?

POP

I was sitting at my table keeping an eye on the kids and this guy walks up carrying this paper bag. He sat down and began talking to me like he knew me, but I didn't recognize him.

JACKSON

What did he look like?

POP

He was your age, said his name was Slider.

Jackson thinks.

JACKSON

There was a kid growing up we called Slider because he was always on the sliding boards. But he moved away when we were kids.

POP

He sat down at the table for a minute then got up to go get some food from the food truck and asked me to watch his stuff. Next thing I know there are two detectives standing there. They looked in the bag Slider left on the seat and it was full of pot.

JACKSON

Didn't you tell them about Slider?

POP

I did, but Slider was no where in sight. So, they arrested me for the drugs.

Pop puts his head down because he's embarrassed.

POP

Worst part is the kids saw me being arrested.

Pop bends over in pain and holds it stomach.

JACKSON

Are you Ok?

POP

No, it's my stomach.

Jackson gets up and goes to the guard at the door.

JACKSON

Don't I know you?

GUARD

Ya, we grew up together.

Jackson points to Pop.

JACKSON

My Father is having stomach pain.

GUARD

I remember your Pop. We'll take him to see the doctor on the way back to his cell.

JACKSON

Thank you.

Jackson returns to where Pop is sitting and sits down.

JACKSON
How you feeling?

POP
I'm Ok.

JACKSON
The guard said they would take you to see the doctor.

POP
Thank you.

JACKSON
What are we going to do about this?

POP
I don't know. They have a public defender coming to see me tomorrow.

JACKSON
This is serious Pop.

POP
Well unless you know an attorney, what are my options?

JACKSON
We'll figure something out.

The Guard walks up to the table.

GUARD
The Doc is leaving in thirty minutes. If you want to see him, we'll have to go now.

Pop slowly stands up. Jackson stands up and gives Pop a hug.

JACKSON
Go see the Doc and get some medicine for your stomach. I'll be back tomorrow.

POP

Stop in and see your sister. Tell the kids I'm Ok, would you?

JACKSON

I will Pop.

The Guard leads Pop away.

INT. TERESA'S APPARTMENT LIVING ROOM - DAY

The kids and Teresa are watching TV. You can hear the door open and close. Jackson comes walking in.

GRANDDAUGHTER

How's Pop.

JACKSON

He's fine. You don't have to worry about your Pop.

Jackson gestures towards the kitchen.

INT. TERESA'S APPARTMENT KITCHEN - DAY

Teresa comes walking in followed by Jackson.

TERESA

What's going on?

JACKSON

They have him setup to see a public defender tomorrow. The drugs were not his. He said some guy named Slider walks up and sat down with him. The guy had a paper bag. He said the guy got up to get some food from the food truck and these two detectives walked up.

TERESA

Did he tell them the drugs belonged to someone else?

JACKSON

He did but Slider took off, probably when he saw the cops walk up to Pop. All the police know is Pop was sitting there with a bag of drugs.

TERESA

What are we going to do?

JACKSON

I don't know. We'll have to wait until he sees the public defender. Pop wasn't feeling well so they took him to see the doctor.

TERESA

I told him to go see a doctor a month ago.

JACKSON

What's wrong with him.

TERESA

I don't know, he has a stomach flu or something. He has not been eating well the past few weeks.

JACKSON

Good luck getting Pop to see a doctor. That would ruin his record. How many times have we heard "I haven't been sick a day in my life".

Jackson and Teresa both smile.

JACKSON

Don't worry, we'll figure something out.

INT. COUNTY JAIL WAITING AREA - DAY

Jackson is sitting in the waiting area when a Man approaches him.

MAN
Mr. Parker?

JACKSON
Yes.

MAN
You're here to see John Parker?

JACKSON
Yes.

MAN
He's been moved to the county hospital.
I sent another person over there
earlier to see him.

JACKSON
What happened?

MAN
He was complaining about his stomach
and after seeing the Doctor they sent
him to the hospital.

Jackson stands up.

JACKSON
Thank you. Who was the other person
you sent over?

MAN
An older gentleman with the same last
name, Parker. Here, you're going to
need this pass to see him.

The man hands Jackson a piece of paper.

JACKSON
Thank you.

Jackson turns and leaves.

INT. COUNTY HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Pop is laying I bed with a an IV in his arm. DZ walks up to the guard by the door and shows the guard a piece of paper then walks in.

DZ

I heard you were arrested so I came to see you.

DZ walks over and pulls a chair up next to the bed.

POP (LOUDLY)

Don't sit down, you're not staying.

DZ

I think you should hear what I have to say.

POP

I don't care what you have to say.

DZ

You will.

DZ sits down.

DZ

I just could not believe it when I hear you were arrested for drugs.
(sarcasticly) Not John Parker.

DZ smiles.

DZ

And in a drug freeze zone at the park with kids.

POP

I'm not a drug dealer, those drugs were not mine.

DZ

Come on now, we both know you smoke a little now and then.

POP

What do you want?

DZ

I'm here to help. Remember that conversation we had the other day about those recordings you have? You give me those recordings and I'll sell them for you. That way you'll have some money for a real lawyer.

POP

I told you, I don't know what you are talking about.

DZ looks over at the guard sitting by the door then back at Pop.

DZ

You know, I might be able to get you out of here if you work with me on this. I've been talking about this with a friend. If the recordings you have are any good, they could be worth a good piece of change.

Pop looks at DZ.

DZ

I might just know someone who has a video of you sitting at the table alone when Slider walks up carrying the drugs and sits down. The video might show Slider walking away and leaving the bag sitting there.

Pop looks at DZ with an angry look on his face.

POP

Did you do this, did you set me up?

DZ

Who said I had anything to do with this?

POP

David, you're my brother, but I've always known what you are. If you set me up and have a video showing the drugs were not mine turn it over to the police. Do the right thing for once in your life.

DZ leans back in his chair for a moment.

DZ

You work with me on this and I'll see what I can do.

Pop turns his head and looks out the window.

DZ (ANGRY)

You're going to give me those recording or it will be a long time before you see those grand kids of yours.

Pop does not respond. DZ is angry, he gets up and leaves.

You can see a tear running down Pop's cheek.

INT. COUNTY HOSPITAL HALL - DAY

Jackson walks up to the guard outside Pop's room and hands the guard a piece of paper.

INT. COUNTY HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Jackson walks in and over to Pop's bed. Jackson gives Pop a hug.

JACKSON

What's going on?

POP

They sent me over for some tests.

JACKSON

What did the Doctor say was wrong?

POP

They won't know until they get the test back.

JACKSON

How are you feeling, did they give you something for the pain?

Pop points to the IV. Jackson looks at the IV then back at Pop.

POP

I'm doing Ok.

JACKSON

They told me over at the jail that DZ was there to see you. Did he come here?

POP

He did. You're Uncle left a while ago. Son, whatever you do stay away from him and keep him away from your Niece and Nephew.

JACKSON

Pop, what's going on.

POP

Nothing, just steer clear of your Uncle.

JACKSON

Ok Pop. Have you seen the public defender?

POP

They gave me a name, it's a girl, but she has not been here to see me. Can you do me a favor, can you go by my place and get me my toothbrush, some pajamas and some of my books? Teresa has a key.

JACKSON

Sure Pop.

INT. TERESA'S APPARTMENT LIVING ROOM - DAY

Teresa and the kids are playing a game on the floor when they hear the door open and close. Jackson comes walking in.

TERESA

What did you find out?

JACKSON

Pop is in the hospital. He saw the Doc in the jail, and they sent him to the hospital.

TERESA

What's wrong with him?

JACKSON

They don't know. Something to do with his stomach. They ran some tests and they're waiting to find out.

TERESA

He's been having problems with his stomach for a few months. I've told him to see a doctor, but you know him. He eats a few Tums and says he's Ok.

JACKSON

DZ stopped in to see him.

TERESA

What did he want?

JACKSON

Pop seemed upset about it, but he didn't say. Pop wants me to get him some things from his apartment. Can I get the spare key before I leave?

TERESA

Sure.

INT. APPARTMENT BUIDING HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jackson walks up to Pop's apartment door and stops. The deadbolt is busted out and the door has been pried open. Jackson looks up and down the empty hallway.

INT. POP'S APPARTMENT- NIGHT

Jackson slowly opens the door, turns on the lights and walks in.

Jackson looks around and everything is a mess. Someone has ransacked the living room and kitchen. Jackson slowly moves through the apartment.

INT. POP'S APPARTMENTE BATHROOM - NIGHT

Jackson walks in and turns on the light. The bathroom has also been ransacked. The medicine cabinet has been ripped off the wall and the toilet lid is setting on the floor. Jackson picks up a toothbrush and toothpaste and walks out.

INT. POP'S APPARTMENTE BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jackson walks in and turns on the light. The bedroom is just as bad as the rest of the apartment. The box spring and mattress are leaning against a wall. All the drawers of the dresser are pulled out and dumped.

Jackson looks through the cloths and picks out a few pairs of pajamas then makes his way out of the bedroom.

INT. POP'S APPARTMENTE LIVINGROOM - NIGHT

Jackson walks in and begins to go through the mess on the floor. Jackson picks out a few books then walks towards the door.

Jackson stops at the door and looks back clutching a bundle of things in his arms. Jackson locks the doorknob, turns out the lights and pulls the door closed.

INT. TERESA'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Teresa is sitting on the couch alone watching TV. She hears the door open and close. Jackson comes walking in with the things he picked up at Pop's apartment.

Jackson walks to the couch and sits down.

TERESA

What are you doing back here?

JACKSON

I went to Pop's place and got his things.

Jackson hands Teresa the spare key and Teresa sets it on a table next to the couch.

JACKSON

Someone broken into to Pop's apartment and they ransacked the place. It's bad.

TERESA

Why would anyone break into his apartment? He doesn't have anything to steal just a bunch of books.

JACKSON

Anyone who knows him knows that. I don't know what was taken but they left the TV.

TERESA

I'll go over in the morning and start cleaning up.

Jackson holds up the things he got from Pop's apartment.

JACKSON

Do you have something I can put these in?

TERESA

Sure, I'll get one of the kid's old backpacks.

Teresa leaves the room. Jackson begins folding the pajamas and stacks the things up on the couch. Teresa returns with a backpack and hands it to Jackson. Jackson begins to put the things into the backpack as Teresa sits down.

JACKSON

I'm going to drop these things off to Pop first thing in the morning.

TERESA

Don't tell him about the apartment, he has enough to worry about. Do you think they would let me take the kids over to the hospital to see him?

JACKSON

I don't see why not. You'll have to stop at the jail and get a pass. They have a guard sitting outside his room at the hospital.

TERESA

It will be better if the kids see him in a hospital rather than a jail.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

The elevator rings and the doors open. Jackson gets off the elevator carrying the backpack.

Down the hall DZ is arguing with the guard.

DZ looks down the hallway at Jackson walking toward him.

DZ turns and walks in the opposite direction.

Jackson walks up to the guard and hands the guard a pass to see Pop.

JACKSON

Is everything OK?

GUARD

He wanted to go in but did not have a pass. I told him to go to the jail and

get a pass, but he didn't want to listen. I was just about to call security.

JACKSON

He doesn't think rules apply to him.

GUARD

I'll need to look through your bag.

JACKSON

Sure.

Jackson unzips the backpack and the guard looks through the backpack.

GUARD

Your fine, go in.

Jackson zips the backpack closed.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Jackson walks in. Pop is laying in bed staring out the window. Pop looks tired. Jackson sees a tray of food on the side table untouched.

JACKSON

Pop, how you doing?

Pop pushed the button and the bed begins to raise up to a sitting position.

POP

I'm doing ok.

Jackson hands Pop the backpack and pulls a chair up next to the bed. Pop takes the bag and sets it on a small table next to the bed.

JACKSON

DZ was at the door when I came off the elevator arguing with the guard. Did you see him?

POP

I heard him. I don't need to see him.

JACKSON

I understand. What did the Doctor say about your tests?

POP

He didn't, they're running some more.

JACKSON

If they are running more tests, they must have an idea of what's wrong with you.

Pop stares out the window.

JACKSON

Pop, what aren't you telling me?

Pop looks back at Jackson.

POP

Son don't worry about me, I feel Ok.

JACKSON

Teresa said you have been having some problems with your stomach.

Jackson gestures with his head towards the tray of food. Pop looks at the tray of food then back at Jackson.

POP

I'm not really hungry.

Jackson stands up, leans over the bed and hugs Pop.

JACKSON

Eat your food. Teresa said she was going to try and bring the kids by to see you Today.

Pop smiles.

POP
Son, I'll be fine.

JACKSON
Well if you need anything, tell Teresa
and I'll bring it by. I got to go to
work.

POP
I'll see you.

Jackson walks out of the room.

INT. JACKSON'S CAR - DAY

Jackson is driving down a city street when his phone rings.
Jackson answers his phone.

JACKSON
This is Jackson.

RANDY (O.S)
Hey this is Randy. I had a good time
at the club last week. I was wondering
if we could get together this weekend?

JACKSON
I don't know, something has happened.

RANDY (O.S)
What's going on.

JACKSON
Pop was arrested the other day for
drugs.

RANDY (O.S)
Pop? Did they really bust him for a
few joints?

JACKSON
No. Do you remember a kid we called
Slider when we were going up?

RANDY (O.S)

Slider? I don't think I remember anyone named Slider.

JACKSON

Sure you do. He always wore a pair of blue jeans and a white T-Shirt. He ran from one sliding board to the other all day long.

RANDY (O.S)

I remember him. His name was Scotty Rivers. He lived in my building and moved right before we did.

JACKSON

Well (with attitude) Scotty walked up to the table Pop was sitting at, put a paper bag down and walked away. A few minutes later two detectives showed up and arrested Pop for the drugs inside the bag.

RANDY (O.S)

Didn't he explain what happened?

JACKSON

He tried to but Slider was gone, and Pop was the only one sitting there.

RANDY (O.S)

I can't believe this. I just saw Pop the other day.

JACKSON (SURPRISED)

Where did you see him?

RANDY (O.S)

He called me and asked if I could copy some old songs off of some tapes he had so he could listen to them.

JACKSON

And what happened?

RANDY (O.S)

I picked him up at the park and took him over to the school. He sat there and watched as I converted the songs from tape to digital. I gave him a thumb drive with the songs and drove him back to the park. They where some pretty cool rap songs he recorded back in the day.

JACKSON

Pop had some stomach problems, so they took him from the jail to the county hospital. He's waiting on some tests.

RANDY (O.S)

Is there anything I can do?

JACKSON

If you know a good lawyer, he could use one.

RANDY (O.S)

I'll ask around.

JACKSON

I'll pulling up to work. I'll call you about this weekend.

RANDY (O.S)

Ok.

JACKSON

I'll talk to you.

Jackson ends the call.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Pop is laying in bed with his eyes closed. Pop's face is thin shows signs of him loosing weight. You can see Jackson walk up with a paper bag. Jackson hands the guard a piece of paper. The guard looks in the bag the waves Jackson in.

Jackson walks in and pulls a chair up close to Pop's bed. Jackson notices another IV by Pop's bed. Jackson reaches over and puts his hand on Pop's arm and Pop opens his eyes.

JACKSON
You sleeping?

POP
No, just resting my eyes.

Jackson holds up the bag.

JACKSON
I brought you some ice cream.

POP
Thanks, put it on the table.

Jackson puts the bag on the side table.

JACKSON
What did the Doctor have to say?

POP
They're still running tests.

Jackson looks over at the second IV then back at Pop.

JACKSON
What's the second IV for?

POP
I don't know, they hooked that one up
this morning.

Jackson watches as Pop reaches down and presses a button laying next to him on the bed.

JACKSON
What's that for?

POP
The nurse put it there this morning and
told me to push it if I was in pain.
It sure does take the edge off.

A Doctor and nurse enter the room.

DOCTOR

Mr. Parker, we're going to need some more blood for another test.

Pop points to Jackson.

POP

This is my Son.

DOCTOR

It's nice to meet you.

JACKSON

Doc.

DOCTOR

Could you give us a few minutes alone?

JACKSON

Sure, I just stopped in to drop off some ice cream.

POP

Can you stop back later on?

JACKSON

I have something to do for work so it will have to be tonight.

POP

I'll see you then.

Jackson walks out of the room.

INT. HOSPITAL HALL - DAY

Jackson stops to talk to the guard.

JACKSON

They asked me to leave while they do some tests. Is it Ok if I stop back tonight?

The guard looks in the room with a concerned look. The guard reaches over to a small table next to his chair and picks up the pass Jackson handed him earlier. The guard hands Jackson the pass.

GUARD

Just bring it back with you tonight.

JACKSON

Thanks.

GUARD

Look, that guy that was here yesterday making a scene came back today with a pass. Your Father told me not to let him in and I had to have him escorted out by security.

Jackson walks away with a concerned look on his face.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jackson walks up to Pops door. The prison guard has been replaced by a hospital security guard.

Jackson hands the pass to the security guard.

GUARD

You don't need that. Can I see some ID?

Jackson takes his wallet out and shows the guard his ID. The guard looks at a small list then back at Jackson.

GUARD

Go on it.

Jackson puts his wallet in his pocket and walks in.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT.

Pop is lying in bed staring out the window. Pop still looks tired.

JACKSON

Hey Pop.

Pop turns his head and looks at Jackson as he walks towards the bed.

Jackson pulls a chair up to the bed and sits down. Pop just lays there for a few moments then pushed the button to raise the bed to a sitting position.

JACKSON

How you feeling?

POP

I feel Ok.

JACKSON

What did the doctor have to say?

POP

Not too much.

Jackson points to the doorway.

JACKSON

What happened to the guard from the jail?

POP

Oh, he's gone. The public defender stopped by to see me. They dropped the charges against me.

JACKSON (EXCITED)

That's great, did they find this Slider? Did he tell them the drugs were his?

POP

No, that's not why. Son I'm not going to jail but I'm also not going home.

JACKSON

If they dropped the charges, they have to let you go.

POP

It's not that. I will not be leaving the hospital. I've known for some time now that there was something wrong in my gut. The Doctor said I have cancer. It has spread to just about everything but my heart.

JACKSON

Pop. (pause) Isn't there anything they can do about it?

POP

Not at this point.

JACKSON

There has got to be something they can do. Some doctor in this hospital has to be able to do something.

Pop lifts up the button.

POP

They are. This is much better than the pot I was smoking. What have I always told you? Don't worry about me.

JACKSON

I can't believe there is nothing they can do.

POP

Look we need to talk. The security guard is outside my room because your Uncle has been coming by and I don't want to see him.

JACKSON

I'll take care of that.

POP

Don't, I told you to steer clear of him. I need to tell you something. I have these songs I want you to have.

JACKSON

Randy told me about the songs.

POP

He did?

JACKSON

Ya, he said he copied them off of these tapes you have to a computer chip for you.

POP

I need to tell you about those songs. Before I came south, I worked at this recording studio up in San Francisco. The owner was a real scumbag. Tupac Shakur came in and rented a studio for a week. This was before he became big. I was working in the studio helping out. Him and I hit it off. I really liked what he was doing, and he appreciated that. I even made some suggestion for some lyrics that and used them.

Pop reaches for a cup on the table over his bed and takes a drink.

POP

The owner called me in one night, it was late. He told my he was headed to Las Vegas for the weekend. He offered me \$2000 dollars to set the place on fire while he was gone so he could collect the insurance money.

JACKSON

And you did it?

POP

Well, I figured since I was going to be out of a job come Monday, I should at least have some money to live on.

JACKSON

I can't believe it.

POP

Look, before coming down here I did some things I'm not proud of. When I walked in the studio Saturday night I went to the back studio where Tupac had been recording. I figured if the fire started in the back, no one would notice until it was too late to stop it and I was right. But before I set the fire, I saw the stack of tapes with Tupac's songs. Since some of my words were on the songs, I didn't want them destroyed, so I took them.

JACKSON

After all you taught us about doing the right thing.

POP

How do you think I learned what the right thing was? The preacher always said you cannot understand sin unless you are a sinner.

JACKSON

But Pop?

POP

Look, I have to live with what I've done. I'm just glad I was able to keep you on the right path. There is something else. You're Uncle knows about the tapes and will do anything to get them. Because the songs belong to Tupac, he thinks they're worth a lot of money.

Jackson looks down at the floor in thought.

JACKSON

So, that's what they were looking for.

POP

What?

JACKSON

We didn't want to tell you, but someone broke into your apartment and ransacked the place. I thought it was odd they left your TV. It must have been DZ.

POP

He would not have done it himself but I'm sure he had someone do it.

JACKSON

Do you think they found the tapes?

POP

No, they're gone. I burned them after Randy gave me that computer chip.

JACKSON

Do you think they found the chip?

POP

They would not have been looking for a chip. The only people who know about the chip are You, Me and Randy.

JACKSON

So where is the chip?

Pop turns his head and looks out the window.

INT. TERESA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Teresa is working in the kitchen when someone knocks at the door.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING HALLWAY - DAY

DZ is standing outside the apartment. Teresa opens the door and DZ tries to walk in, but Teresa holds the door. Realizing she's not letting him in DZ steps back.

DZ

What's up?

TERESA

Pop's in the hospital and I heard you were over there causing a scene.

DZ

Him and I have some business.

TERESA (WITH ADDITUED)

We'll you need to leave him along.

DZ

So that's the way it is.

TERESA

Yes it is. Until Pop is better you need to stay away and show some respect.

DZ

Ok.

DZ slowly turns and walks away as Teresa closes the door.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING HALLWAY - DAY

Jackson walks up to the door and knocks. Teresa answers the door.

TERESA

Come in.

INT. TERESA'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM. NIGHT

Teresa walks in followed by Jackson and they sit down on the couch. The kids are watching TV.

TERESA

How's Pop doing?

JACKSON

You know him. He just keeps saying he's fine even though they're running more tests.

TERESA

Well he seemed fine when I took the kids up to see him.

JACKSON

Have you been over to his apartment?

TERESA

Yes, I cleaned up some of the mess.

JACKSON

Did you find one of those computer chips you plug into a computer?

TERESA

A computer chip, what would Pop be doing with a computer chip?

GRANDDAUGHTER

Pop had it down at the park the other day. He had me play some songs on the chip with my iPad. They were Rap songs.

Teresa and Jackson look at the GRANDDAUGHTER.

JACKSON

What did he do with the chip?

GRANDDAUGHTER

I don't know. Pop listened to the songs while we were playing. My Mother doesn't was us listening to Rap music.

Teresa looks at Jackson.

TERESA

I didn't find any computer chip.

JACKSON
Don't worry about it.

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

DZ comes walking across the part and up to the playground.
The Granddaughter sees DZ and comes running up to him

GRANDDAUGHTER
Hi Uncle.

DZ (VERY NICLEY)
How are you Today?

GRANDDAUGHTER
I'm doing fine.

DZ (VERY NICLEY)
Who's here watching you?

The Granddaughter points to a woman sitting on a park bench.

GRANDDAUGHTER
Miss. Davis is watching us until Momma gets home.

DZ looks at Miss. Davis who gives him a stern look.

DZ (VERY NICLEY)
So, what has your Mother been doing?

GRANDDAUGHTER
Not too much, she took us to see Pop in the hospital. He's sick.

DZ (VERY NICLEY)
I know.

GRANDDAUGHTER
Uncle Jackson and Mother was talking about Pop being in the hospital last night. I told them about Pop playing music on my iPad. But I told them it

was Rap music, so I did not listen to it.

DZ (VERY NICLEY)

Where did Pop get this music from?

GRANDDAUGHTER

He had a computer chip. I showed him how to put the chip into my iPad and play the music. He had me count the songs, there were twelve songs all together.

DZ (VERY NICLEY)

What time does your Mother picks you up?

GRANDDAUGHTER

She picks us up at 4pm.

The Little Girl looks over her shoulder at the kids playing. DZ looks at the kids also.

DZ (VERY NICLEY)

You go ahead and go back to playing

GRANDDAUGHTER

Ok Uncle, I'll see you later.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

The elevator rings and the doors open. Jackson gets off the elevator and walks towards Pop's room.

The guard sees Jackson and waves him in.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Pop is asleep in bed when Jackson walks in. Jackson walks up to the bed and puts his hand on Pop's arm.

JACKSON

Pop, you awake?

Pop slowly opens his eyes. His eyes are glassed over.

POP
Who's that?

JACKSON
It's Jackson Pop.

JACKSON
How was school Today?

JACKSON
Pop, I don't go to school anymore.

POP (AGITATED)
God damn it boy, I told you, you have
to finish school.

JACKSON
It's Ok Pop, settle down.

Pop closes his eyes. A nurse walks in and check's the IV
bags. Jackson looks at the nurse.

JACKSON
I think there's something wrong. He
thinks I'm still in school.

NURSE
He's under a lot of medication for the
pain.

JACKSON
You don't understand, he thinks I'm a
kid.

NURSE
Have you talked to the Doctor about
your Father's condition?

JACKSON
No.

NURSE
Let me see if I can find a doctor.

The nurse leaves the room. Jackson stands there with a worried look on his face and a hand on Pop's arm. The Doctor walks in.

DOCTOR
The guard said you're his Son.

JACKSON
The only one he has.

DOCTOR
Did your Father explain his condition?

JACKSON
He said he has cancer.

DOCTOR
He does. By the time they brought him in it had advanced to a point that we were surprised he was still alive. All we can do is make him as comfortable as possible.

JACKSON
What does that mean, he seemed fine a few days ago?

DOCTOR
I'm sorry but your Father probably won't make it through the weekend.

Jackson looks at Pop's face.

DOCTOR
I'm sorry.

The doctor leaves the room.

EXT. JACKSON'S APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Jackson is walking up to the door when DZ approaches him.

DZ
What's going on?

JACKSON

What to do you want?

DZ

I wanted to talk to you about your
Father. I've also been waiting here
for a while. Can I use your bathroom?

Jackson gives DZ a suspicious look.

JACKSON

Come on up.

Jackson enters the building followed by DZ.

INT. JACKSON'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

You can here the locks being turned, and the door opens.
Jackson steps in and turns on the light. DZ enters and
Jackson points down the hall.

JACKSON

The bathroom is down the hall.

DZ turns and walks down the hall. Jackson watches as DZ
enters the bathroom and closes the door.

INT. JACKSON'S APARTMENT KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jackson walks to the refrigerator and gets a bottle of
water. Jackson leans against the counter as he takes a
drink. You can hear the bathroom door open and DZ comes
walking down the hall. DZ enters the kitchen. DZ looks
around.

DZ

You have a nice place.

JACKSON

What do you want?

DZ

Your Father has some music we were
looking to do some business over. They
won't let me in the hospital to see him

and I was wondering if you could talk to him about it.

JACKSON

I don't know, Pop is in pretty bad shape, they have him on some pretty strong pain medication.

DZ

Well if you could talk to him and this deal works out maybe there would be something in it for you.

JACKSON

I'll have to think about it.

DZ

Ok then, you think about it. Teresa has my numbers if you want to talk.

DZ walks out of the kitchen. You can hear the door open and close. Jackson sets the bottle of water down on the counter and walks out of the kitchen.

INT. JACKSON'S APARTMENT BATHROOM - NIGHT

Jackson walks in and looks around. Jackson opens the medicine cabinet, looks inside then closes it.

Jackson picks up the trash can, looks inside then places it back on the floor.

Jackson picks up the lid on the back of the toilet and floating in the tank is a plastic bag with many small plastic bags inside filled with white powder. Jackson takes a towel from the towel rack and places it over the plastic bag floating in the tank. Jackson lifts the plastic bag out of the tank wrapped in the towel.

Jackson looks around the bathroom. Jackson walks to the window, open it and tosses the plastic bag wrapped in the towel out the window. Jackson closes the window and puts the lid back on the toilet. Jackson leaves the bathroom and turns out the light.

INT. JACKSON'S APARTMENT KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jackson is eating dinner when you hear a knock at the door. Jackson gets up and leaves the kitchen.

INT. JACKSON'S APARTMENT HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jackson opens the door. Standing outside the door are four men. Man 1 holds up a badge the holds up a folded piece of paper.

DETECTIVE 1

My Parker, we're detectives. We have a warrant to search the premises.

JACKSON

What are you looking for?

DETECTIVE 1

Please step aside and allow us to do are jobs sir.

Jackson steps back as all four Detectives enter his apartment.

INT. JACKSON'S APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jackson is sitting on the couch while one Detective searches the living room and another Detective watches Jackson.

Detective 1 walks into the living room carrying a pistol.

Jackson looks at the pistol. There is a cable lock running through the pistol.

DETECTIVE 1

Sir, is this your gun?

JACKSON

No, it's my Father's.

DETECTIVE 1

What are you doing with it?

JACKSON

My Father gave it to me a while ago to hold for him. There have been some break-ins in his apartment building, and he didn't feel it was safe there.

Detective 2 walks into the living room

DETECTIVE 1

What do you have?

Detective 2 just shakes his head no.

DETECTIVE 1

Sir, please stand up. You are under arrest for illegal possession of a firearm.

Jackson slowly stands up, turns around and puts his hands behind his back. The Detective watching him puts handcuffs on Jackson.

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Jackson is standing at a phone with handcuffs no making a call.

JACKSON (QUIETLY)

Randy, this is Jackson. Don't talk just listen.

Jackson looks around at the police officers sitting at desks.

JACKSON (QUIETLY)

Remember where we use to hide as kids. There is a place like that at my apartment. I left something there. Get it and put it away. I'll call you.

INT. JAIL VISITING AREA - DAY

DZ walks up to the table where Jackson is sitting and DZ sits down.

JACKSON
What's up Unk?

DZ
I heard you were arrested and wanted to see how you were doing.

JACKSON
I'm doing Ok.

DZ
Maybe I can help you with this.

Jackson gets a surprised look on his face.

JASKSON
How are you going to do that?

DZ
I know this guy named Slider. He owes me and I can get him to cop to leaving the drugs in your apartment.

Jackson does not react.

JACKSON
But he didn't, you did.

DZ
You can't prove that and if you help me out with getting my hands on those recordings and the computer chip your Father has, I can make this thing go away.

Jackson leans back in his chair.

JACKSON
I told you, Pop told me he burned the tapes and I don't know where the computer chip is.

DZ

Sure, you do and unless you want to go to prison for drug possession, you'll get me that computer chip.

JACKSON

And exactly how am I supposed to do that sitting in here?

DZ

Figure it out.

Jackson just sits there in silence.

DZ

You know this same thing could happen to your sister. They arrest Teresa and your Niece and Nephew will be put in foster care.

Jackson does not respond. DZ gets up and walks away.

INT. POLICE STATION CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

A Prosecutor and two of the detectives are sitting at a conference table. The Prosecutor has a folder and papers in front of him on the table.

PROSECUTOR

So, you executed a warrant for drugs and come back with an arrest for illegal gun possession.

One detective looks at the other then back at the Prosecutor.

DETECTIVE 1

Our source identified the man as a major drug dealer. The source was sure he had a large amount of fentanyl in his apartment.

The Prosecutor goes back to reading.

PROSECUTOR

Is says in the report that his statement was "his Father gave him the gun for safe keeping because the Father feared a break-in at his apartment". Did you talk to the Father?

DETECTIVE 1

We went to the Father's apartment but only his Daughter was there. She was cleaning up because the Father's apartment had been broken into.

PROSECUTOR

But did you talk to the Father?

DETECTIVE 1

No, the Father is in the hospital dying of cancer. He's unresponsive.

PROSECUTOR

Did you ask the Daughter about the gun?

DETECTIVE 1

We did and she confirmed the Father gave the gun to the Son for safe keeping.

The Prosecutor looks through the papers on the table and reads one.

PROSECUTOR

It says you found no ammunition. It also says this man has a clean record. You can not charge him with illegal position of firearm.

DETECTIVE 2

We figured if he was a drug dealer then the gun had to be stolen.

PROSECUTOR

Did you pull his record record before pulling the warrant?

Detective 2 looks at detective 1 then back at the Prosecutor. The Prosecutor puts the papers back into the folder and slides the folder across the table to Detective 1 then folds his hands.

PROSECUTOR

There's nothing here for me to prosecute. You arrested him on an invalid gun charge and had him sit in jail all weekend. You need to release this man and hope he does not sue the city.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Jackson is walked out by Detective 1

DETECTIVE 1

Again, we are sorry for the confusion.

JACKSON

What were you looking for?

DETECTIVE 1

Our sources identified you as a drug dealer.

Jackson stares at the Detective.

JACKSON

Do you have a business card?

The Detective fumbles through his jacket pocket and retrieves a business card. The Detective hands Jackson the business card. Jackson takes the business card, puts it in his pocket and walks away.

EXT. JACKSON'S APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Jackson is waiting on the sidewalk. Randy pulls up in his car and Jackson gets in.

INT. RANDY'S CAR - DAY

Randy pulls away from the curb.

RANDY
What's going go on.

JACKSON
I was set up just like Pop. The cops
expected to find drugs in my apartment.

RANDY
So, what was that I picked up wrapped
in a towel behind the air conditioners
in the back of your apartment building?

Jackson smiles at Randy.

JACKSON
I'm not sure but I'd say it's drugs.

RANDY
What are you not telling me?

JACKSON
Take me to the hospital, I have to see
Pop.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

Jackson and Randy walk up to Pop's room and there is no
guard sitting outside the door.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Jackson and Randy walk in. There is a patient lying in the
bed Pop was in with a nurse tending to them.

JACKSON
Where did you move Mr. Parker to?

The Nurse motions Jackson and Randy out of the room.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

Randy, Jackson and the Nurse come walking out of the room.

NURSE

I'm sorry but Mr. Parker passed away
last night.

Jackson reacts to the news and steps back.

RANDY

Jackson, I'm sorry.

JACKSON

I was sitting in jail when he died.

Jackson looks at Randy with an angry look on his face.

JACKSON (ANGRY)

Let's go.

INT. DZ'S CAR - DAY

DZ is driving down a city street when his phone rings.

DZ

Hello.

JACKSON (O.S)

Pop is dead, he died last night.

DZ

And?

JACKSON (O.S)

And I have the computer chip you're
looking for. What do you think these
songs are worth?

DZ

I'm not sure, could be ten, fifteen
thousand dollars.

JACKSON (O.S)

Ok. Then I want ten thousand dollars
cash. Meet me at the table where Pop
always set at 4pm. Bring the cash and
I'll bring the computer chip. Don't be
late.

EXT. PARK TABLE - DAY

DZ is sitting at the table waiting on Jackson. Two detectives approach the table.

DETECTIVE 1

Mr. Parker.

DZ

You need to get out of here. I can't be seen with you two.

DETECTIVE 2

Things did not work out so well with that last lead you gave us.

DZ

Will you get out of here (with attitude) and maybe I'll have something for you later.

DETECTIVE 1

Can you stand up and back away from the table?

DZ just sits there looking at Detective 1.

DETECTIVE 1

Stand up.

DZ slowly stands up and steps back away from the table. Detective 2 walks behinds DZ. Detective 1 steps up to the table, leans over and begins to feel around under the table. Detective 1 pulls out a plastic bag filled with small plastic bags full of powder. Detective 1 stands up and shows the plastic bag to DZ.

DETECTIVE 1

What's this.

DZ

That's not mine.

DETECTIVE 2

You're under arrest for possession.
Put your hands behind your back.

DZ puts his hands behind his back.

DZ (WITH ADDITUDA)

You can't prove those drugs belongs to
me.

DETECTIVE 1

Oh, I think we can. Do you think
you're the first drug dealer that tried
to play the system? Tried to play us?

Detective 1 looks over at the kids playing then back at DZ.

DETECTIVE 1

And it's a Drug Free Zone. We'll make
it stick also.

EXT. PARK TABLE - DAY

Jackson and Teresa are sitting at the table watching the
kids play.

TERESA

You know Pop getting arrested was
probably a good thing.

JACKSON

How do you figure?

TERESA

Pop must have been in a lot of pain.
If they had not arrested him, he would
never have seen a doctor and ended up
in the hospital. He probable would
have died alone in his apartment.

JACKSON

You're probably right.

TERESA

He was a tough old bird.

Jackson shakes his head yes.

TERESA

I'm going to get the kids and head in.
Why don't you come on in and have
dinner with us?

JACKSON

Ok.

TERESA

In about an hour?

Jackson shakes his head yes. Teresa gets up and walks away.

Randy comes walking down the sidewalk and enters the park.

Randy walks up to the table where Jackson is sitting and sits down.

RANDY

I read in the paper that your uncle was
arrested in this same park for drug
possession.

JACKSON

He was. You know Pop always said there
was a dark side to that man, I just
never knew how dark.

Randy looks around.

RANDY

It doesn't see right, your Pop not
sitting here.

JACKSON

He's here. I spread his ashes in this
park. It was the only place I could
think of that made him happy.

RANDY

I remember seeing him smoking, but when
ever we came over to the table the

cigarette was gone. Seemed a little contradictory, him sitting here smoking and then telling us not to smoke cigarettes.

Jackson smiles.

JACKSON

That wasn't a cigarette he was smoking.

RANDY

You're telling me your Father was smoking pot?

JACKSON

He always told me it was for the pain from being shot in Beirut. When anyone came close, he would reach under the table.

Jackson reaches under the table.

JACKSON

And put the joint in this pipe holding up the tabletop.

Jackson stops and gives Randy an odd look. Jackson pulls his hand out from under the table and he is holding the computer chip.

RANDY

That's the thumb drive I gave your Father after I digitized the songs for him.

JACKSON

Did you listen to any of the songs as you were digitizing them?

RANDY

Ya, Pop could Rap when he was younger.

Jackson looks at the thumb drive then puts it in his pocket.

JACKSON

What do you think a dozen unreleased songs from a rapper like Tupac Shakur would be worth? Songs that were recorded before they were recognized?

RANDY

I don't know, I'm not really into Rap. But probably thousands. Why? Your Pop was not Tupac.

JACKSON

No, he wasn't

Fade out white: