

THE EQUALIZER

"Motherless Child"

Written by

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ACT ONE

INT. MCCALL HOME - DAY

VIOLA "AUNT VI" MARSETTE, still in PJs and headscarf, roots around in a hall closet. Digs through boxes of family memorabilia.

A THUD behind her has her turning to see -

DELILAH FULTON struggling to control a backpack overflowing with books while trying to pick up the one she dropped.

AUNT VI
Need some help? That's quite a load.

DELILAH
I got it.

Aunt Vi slants her a look then abandons the closet to pick up the wayward book and hands it to Delilah.

DELILAH
Thanks.

AUNT VI
No shame in accepting help, Child.
How's your project coming?

DELILAH
How did anyone research anything before digital? They must've been really strong. Thankfully the e-versions are now available. Mom's gonna drive me so I can return these.

AUNT VI
Aside from learning that books are heavy, have you learned anything else?

DELILAH
Tons. But not enough to sway me one way or the other. Both Nature and nurture play a big role in human development.

DELILAH (CONT'D)

How am I supposed to say one is more important than the other?

AUNT VI

Are you leaning one way or the other, yet?

DELILAH

I'm lowkey kinda hoping that nature wins.

AUNT VI

Oh really?

DELILAH

Yeah. 'Cause then it'll mean I'll be as much of a badass as Mom. But you can't tell her I said that. You know how she'll get.

ROBYN (O.S.)

How who gets?

Distracted by her phone, ROBYN MCCALL exits her bedroom wearing a cheetah print sweater under a leopard print cropped blazer and brown velvet pants.

DELILAH

Mel. She's an absolute drill sergeant when she's training me.

Robyn eyes Delilah, not buying the too quick answer, but lets it go.

Gesturing with her phone -

ROBYN

Speaking of Mel, she just texted. I have to get to work.

Off Delilah's crestfallen look -

ROBYN

The library's on the way. I can still drop you off.

DELILAH

Oh thank God.

Struggling under the weight of the backpack, Delilah heads for the door.

Robyn hangs back. Gives Aunt Vi a goofy grin.

ROBYN
(whispers)
She thinks I'm a badass.

AUNT VI
Nonetheless, you be safe out there.

ROBYN
Always.

EXT. MCCALL HOME - DAY

Delilah struggles through the front door with her bag.

Without a word, Robyn lifts it up from behind to help her shoulder the burden.

Delilah smiles. Her mom has her back.

INT. MEL'S BAR - DAY

MELODY "MEL" BAYANI cleans the already clean bar and keeps shooting worried looks at -

CAMERON "CAM" BELL (22), a timid Chinese and African American man seated in a booth. He's scared and about to jump out of his own skin at any moment. He guzzles a glass of water before pouring another from the pitcher on the table.

Robyn arrives. Takes note of Cam before joining Mel at the bar.

ROBYN
He say anything more?

MEL
Not a word.

She nods, then joins Cam at the booth.

He jumps then shoots a frightened look around at her arrival.

ROBYN
You're Cameron? My name is Robyn.
How can I help?

Cam takes a calming breath then nods.

CAM

You're not one of them. Good.

Sitting across from him -

ROBYN

One of who?

CAM

The men who are trying to kill me.

He gulps more water. Goes for a refill. Robyn stops him with a gentle hand.

ROBYN

Why don't you start at the beginning?

BEGIN FLASHBACK

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Cam, distracted, carries a food delivery bag in addition to a large backpack on his back. He checks his phone.

INSERT PHONE

A GPS pin blinks relentlessly on top of his location.

BACK TO SCENE

Cam checks the area. No doors nearby.

He walks around the location into -

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

Cam checks for another entrance to the delivery address. Finds an unexpectedly open door and stumbles through into -

INT. COPY STORE - BACK ROOM - NIGHT

Cam freezes just inside the door.

The room is filled with several armed MEN working to open wooden pallets. They all stare at him like cartoon villains.

CAM
Food delivery for George.

Cam doesn't wait around. He drops the bag on the floor then flees out the door he entered.

END FLASHBACK

INT. MEL'S BAR - DAY

Cam pauses his story to take another gulp of water.

Mel quietly switches out the now empty pitcher for a full one and gives Robyn a pointed look.

ROBYN
Okay. But why do you think they're after you? How do they know who you are?

CAM
I have no idea. But one of them showed up in my Woman Studies class. He just sat there. In the back. Staring at me. And another's been hanging around my campus apartment building. Nowhere is safe.

ROBYN
Okay. Do you have any idea who these guys are? What they were doing?

CAM
That's just it. I don't. I have no clue what they think I saw. But they think I do and now they're everywhere I go. I can't even work. They place fake delivery orders to lure me out - God only knows where.

Weirdly desperate for her approval -

CAM
I have a tuition payment due. I'm paying my own way through college. I have to work.

ROBYN
I understand. It's gonna be okay.

CAM
So, you'll help me? Tell them I
don't know anything so they'll
leave me alone?

Picking up on the strange vibes -

ROBYN
Something like that. Do you have
somewhere safe to stay? That's out
of their reach?

He shakes his head.

CAM
No. I've only got me.

ROBYN
Now you've got us. Mel will take
you to a safe house, while I look
into -

His phone CHIMES. He recoils when he sees the notification
pop up on the screen.

CAM
It's them. Another delivery. To the
same address.

He unlocks the phone then slides it over to her.

Mel joins them. Reads over Robyn's shoulder.

ROBYN
I think we have a delivery to make.

INT. HARRY'S LAIR - DAY

HARRY KESHEGIAN does digital recon on Cam. He has Cam's
records all over his many screens. Student ID, credit card
statements, electric bills. He's done a deep dive in this
kid's life.

Over coms -

HARRY
The kid is who he says he is.

INTERCUT WITH

INT. ROBYN'S CAR (DRIVING) - DAY

Robyn drives with Mel riding shotgun. They listen to Harry while Cam fidgets in the backseat.

ROBYN

Nothing out of place?

HARRY

I've got his whole life spread out here in front of me. Lost his parents in a car accident. No other relatives. Grew up in a group home. Decent grades, but not enough for a scholarship. Kid's been busting his ass to get through college ever since. Of course, it's taking longer because of all the jobs he has to take on.

MEL

Tuition is not cheap. Even for community college.

HARRY

I kinda respect him. He's trying to do everything right when the whole world is basically stacked against him.

ROBYN

Thanks Harry. What about these phony deliveries? Can you tell who's placing them?

Harry's fingers fly over his keyboards.

A pin drops on a map. A graphic representing Robyn's car heads steadily for it.

HARRY

Not to the person. But they're definitely coming from a business IP address registered to CF Holdings. It's a small copy shop. Looks legit enough at first glance. My guess is there's a rogue employee involved. The owners probably have no idea what's going on at their property.

Robyn checks on Cam via the rearview.

ROBYN

I still don't like this. It's like we're delivering you straight to the lion's den.

CAM

The door I entered is kind of hidden. I need to show you where it is.

ROBYN

You'll point it out then wait in the car. Got it.

CAM

Yes ma'am. But, uh -

Mel and Robyn exchange concerned looks.

ROBYN

But, what?

CAM

Can we stop at a restroom, first? I really have to go.

Mel bites back a laugh and looks out the passenger window so she doesn't crack up.

ROBYN

Remember when I asked if you had to go before we left.

CAM

I didn't have to go then.

Robyn, annoyed, spots a gas station up ahead. Heads for it.

INT. COPY STORE - DAY

Robyn and Mel cautiously enter. The shop is eerily quiet.

No machines running. No customers talking. No employees present.

Mel runs her fingers over some white copy paper that has yellowed with age.

MEL

If this ain't a front, I don't know what is.

Robyn casts another look outside where -

Cam waits in the car.

ROBYN

This has "set up" written all over it.

MEL

But who is the trap for? They wouldn't know we were coming.

She follows Robyn into -

INT. COPY STORE - BACK ROOM - NIGHT

Robyn and Mel spot the pallets Cam told them about.

Seeing no one about, Robyn quickly pries one open revealing neat stacks of cash.

Lots and lots of cash.

Mel opens another pallet. More cash.

MEL

What is all this?

Robyn inspects the bills.

ROBYN

Counterfeit. All of it.

MEL

Talk about taking your job a little too literal.

ROBYN

This must be what those men are afraid Cam saw. Clearly, this operation is old. He threatens that.

Taking a bill from a stack -

ROBYN
We gotta get this tested. See
exactly who we're dealing with.

INT. COPY STORE - DAY

Robyn and Mel hurry out of the back room. Stop short when they see several armed COUNTERFEITERS between them and the exit.

One has his arm around Cam's neck and a gun jammed into his kidney.

LEAD COUNTERFEITER
I believe you have something of
ours.

Robyn pulls out the bill. Gestures toward Cam -

ROBYN
And you have something of ours.
Let's make the trade and we'll be
on our way.

LEAD COUNTERFEITER
Is that what you think is about to
happen? After that one has been
snooping around our shop - our
business - for months.

Robyn's puzzled gaze slides to Cam for a quick second.

LEAD COUNTERFEITER
This is a very old, very family-run
business. And do you know how we
keep it that way?

ROBYN
Enlighten us.

LEAD COUNTERFEITER
It's our zero-tolerance policy for
outsiders.

He raises his gun to shoot Robyn.

Before he can pull the trigger, Cam smashes his captor in the nose with the back of his head while at the same time subduing his gun hand.

Despite their surprise, the distraction gives Robyn and Mel the opening they need to engage the other men in hand to hand combat.

While she fights off one counterfeiter, another gets Mel in his sights.

ROBYN

Mel!

Robyn takes the guy down. Snaps his wrist basically in two.

The shot goes wide. Lodges in the Lead Counterfeiter's shoulder.

He screams and drops to the ground.

This gives Robyn, Mel and Cam the opening they need to subdue the others.

Cam provides flex cuffs.

Robyn eyes him, pissed.

ROBYN

You have some explaining to do. No more of these true lies.

She tosses Mel some cuffs. They make quick work of cuffing the criminals.

Finished with the last guy, Robyn turns to Cam -

ROBYN

Start talking.

Cam, halfway out the door, drops his act. He stands up straight and tall. Oozing confidence. And - rage.

His grin is chilling. Laser focused on Robyn -

CAM

Thanks for the assist. See ya around. *Mom.*

He flees out the door leaving a stunned Robyn behind.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO**EXT. COPY STORE - NIGHT**

Cop cars, lights still flashing, fill the street. ONLOOKERS watch as the counterfeiters are loaded up into a van and taken to jail.

DETECTIVE MARCUS DANTE exits the store. Pointing to a squad of CSI TECHS -

DANTE

All clear. I'll get Secret Service on the horn to help with cataloging the cash. Gotta be a few hundred million in there.

The squad members nod then head inside with their gear.

He gets in his car and drives away.

INT. DANTE'S CAR (DRIVING) - NIGHT

Robyn sits up in the backseat.

He spots her in the rearview, but isn't even shocked.

DANTE

Should've known this was you.

ROBYN

Except it wasn't. Exactly.

DANTE

What does that mean?

ROBYN

What can you tell me about this operation? Has it been on anyone's radar prior to tonight? Who are they?

DANTE

Usually, you're the one telling me these pertinent details.

ROBYN

Humor me. I'm playing catch up tonight.

Her tone isn't humorous at all. It worries him.

DANTE

The Callan Family. They own and operate a string of moderately successful copy shops in several cities across the nation. Long suspected to be the largest printer of counterfeit currency in the world. The operation goes back generations.

ROBYN

Generations? Why has no one been able to take them down until now?

DANTE

Too close-knit. It's loose lips that sinks ships. And they never say a word. They operate so far under the radar that no one has ever been able to get any evidence on them.

ROBYN

Until tonight.

DANTE

Yeah. Shots fired definitely gave us exigent circumstances. Having them already gift-wrapped was a nice touch. Lot of nice touches like that lately. Thank you.

Robyn freezes.

ROBYN

What?

Dante stops at a red light and turns to look at her.

DANTE

The rash of flex cuffed criminals sitting on piles of evidence that have been left for us to sweep up all over the city? That wasn't you?

Opening the door to get out -

ROBYN
No. No, it wasn't.

DANTE
Then who?

ROBYN
That's what I'm going to find out.

She walks away and he drives off when the light turns green.

INT. HARRY'S LAIR - NIGHT

Harry, in the zone, types rapidly at his desk.

Cam's picture remains static on one monitor while details of his carefully crafted cover ID unravels on the others.

Robyn and Mel join him.

HARRY
In my defense - and at the expense of my ego - I have to admit: this kid is good. I haven't seen such an air tight cover since, well, mine.

MEL
Babe, you aren't walking into a CIA trap are you?

Gesturing around the alarm-free room -

HARRY
Nah. I piggybacked off the FBI. If they note the intrusion, it'll look like it's coming from inside the house, so to speak.

MEL
Who is this guy?

ROBYN
I'm more concerned with what he wants. Dante said the counterfeiters we took down were the real deal. Nobody's been able to get to them.

MEL
So how did Cam?

ROBYN

Exactly.

Harry switches windows. Code scrolls on the screen.

HARRY

Oh. Well now that's interesting.

Mel looks between the code and Harry.

MEL

Care to translate, Babe?

HARRY

Right. So remember that delivery notification that popped up on his phone while he was here?

ROBYN

Does that tell you who sent it?

HARRY

Yeah. He did.

ROBYN

I was looking right at him when it came in. He wasn't even touching his phone.

HARRY

He didn't have to. He coded it to send upon hearing a trigger phrase. "I've only got me" to be specific.

MEL

But that's a legitimate delivery service. You're saying he hacked in just to send himself fake messages for our benefit?

HARRY

This took a whole lot of planning on his part.

ROBYN

And he executed it flawlessly. But why? Just to get to me? There were easier ways.

Tiptoeing around the elephant in the room -

MEL

Maybe it has to do with - you know.
The other thing.

ROBYN

What other - oh. You mean him
calling me, "Mom?"

MEL

Yeah. Think there's any truth to
it?

ROBYN

I think I'd remember popping out
another kid.

MEL

We should cover all angles. Just in
case.

ROBYN

And how exactly are we going to
cover this angle?

MEL

Hold on.

Mel darts from the room. Returns moments later with the glass
Cam drank from earlier on a tray.

MEL

The glass. I haven't washed it yet.
We've got his DNA.

HARRY

Come on, Mel. A guy this thorough
wouldn't haphazardly leave his DNA
about.

Looking a little nervous -

ROBYN

Not unless he wanted us to find it.

Robyn pulls out some DNA kits, does a quick cheek swab on
herself. Hands it off to Mel.

ROBYN

Ask your guy to be quick on this.
Something tells me we don't have a
lot of time. Since we're covering
all angles -

Robyn carefully lifts Cam's prints from the glass before
sealing it in plastic and handing it over.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Dante leans against his car, munching on some fried mac &
cheese balls from a nearby food truck.

Robyn leans next to him.

He wordlessly hands her a fork and she spears one.

ROBYN

Another of your Angel Investments?

DANTE

Thinking about it. Carlo's a good
guy.

After eating the ball -

ROBYN

And a good cook.

DANTE

Right.

After a moment of companionable silence -

DANTE

But you didn't come here for lunch.

She hands him the print she lifted.

ROBYN

Think you can get an ID for me?

He takes the print and eyes it.

DANTE

This have anything to do with the
mystery man the counterfeiters
insist have been stalking them?

ROBYN

Don't have a definitive answer for you on that one. The counterfeiters are ancillary to the job we're working.

He catches and holds her gaze.

DANTE

What's going on? Do I need to put SWAT on standby?

ROBYN

I'll be in touch.

INT. MEL'S BAR - DAY

Mel stocks the shelves while Harry paces. He pauses when inspiration strikes and sits at the bar.

HARRY

So. What are *you* going to tell her?

MEL

Me? Why do I have to tell Robyn that Cam is her child?

HARRY

Well - Because - It was your friend that ran the DNA. Scarily fast, I might add.

MEL

They're good at their job.

HARRY

And, you're - you know - a woman. I mean - Finding out you have a kid you didn't know about is hard enough. But the way this had to have happened - That has to be so violating, right?

Mel joins Harry across the bar. Takes his hands.

MEL

Completely. I know I'd freak out. But Rob - she's the most level-headed person I know. If anyone can handle it, it's her.

ROBYN (O.S.)
 So, it's true then. Cameron is my
 son.

Mel and Harry spin to face Robyn who's entered the bar
 unnoticed.

HARRY
 I don't know whether to say
 "Congratulations" or "I'm sorry
 that happened to you?" 'Cause
 clearly something did unless you
 went on one hell of a party binge
 back then.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Robyn, in the bed & covered in bandages, opens her eyes.

A DOCTOR and a NURSE slowly come into her focus. They consult
 her chart and speak German.

She can't make out the words over the RINGING in her ears.

Robyn blacks out again.

INT. MEL'S BAR - DAY

Anger building, Robyn lasers in on Harry.

ROBYN
 Instead of pithy platitudes, why
 don't you give me something I can
 use to find this guy?

HARRY
 Rob, I'm sorry -

ROBYN
 Sorry doesn't help me figure out
 what he wants. Can you get that for
 me?

HARRY
 I know this is a shock. Do you want
 to talk -

Reading Robyn's growing anger -

MEL
We're on it.

ROBYN
Thank you, Mel.

After one last glare at Harry, Robyn walks away. Once her back is to them, her angry façade begins to crumble. Devastation takes its place.

INT. ROBYN'S CAR - DAY

Gobsmacked, Robyn gets behind the wheel and just sits. After a moment, she screams. It's guttural. Chilling. She shakes with rage.

Her phone RINGS.

Dante's name appears on the screen.

Trying to calm herself, she lets it RING a few more times. Then -

ROBYN
Tell me you've got a name.

INTERCUT WITH

INT. POLICE STATION - DANTE'S DESK - DAY

Dante contemplates his computer monitor, but switches focus to how off she sounds.

DANTE
What's wrong, Robyn? Something happen?

ROBYN
Sorry. Just distracted. But really hoping you have some good news for me.

He winces. Looks at the screen where a big, red CLASSIFIED watermark covers the prints.

DANTE
I wish I did. They came back as Classified.

Robyn bolts up.

ROBYN
Classified?

DANTE
Yeah. Sorry it wasn't -

ROBYN
Thanks, Dante. I owe you.

DANTE
I just gave you a dead end.

ROBYN
You just gave me a new rock to turn
over. I'm pretty sure I already
know what's about to slither out.

They hang up.

Pissed, Robyn starts her car and slams it into gear. She
shoots into traffic completely ignoring the other drivers
honking at her recklessness.

EXT. PARK - DAY

COLTON FISK enjoys lunch pulled together from several takeout
containers surrounding him on a picnic table.

Robyn joins him.

FISK
Pull up a plate, Mall Cop. I
figured I'd be hearing from you
after your cop buddy ran that
classified print. What do you want
to know?

ROBYN
This must be bad if you're
volunteering information.

FISK
Long before my time -

He pauses dramatically for effect.

She's not having it.

He slides her a file and continues -

FISK

There **was** a program. It's defunct now. You can see for yourself. The purpose **was** to build up our military ranks.

ROBYN

I get it. Past tense.

FISK

The point is, the draft was unpopular. Our young men just weren't signing up to serve our nation anymore -

Robyn pauses in reading the file. Stares at him horrified.

ROBYN

The CIA actually did it. I'd heard rumors, but to actually breed humans? Mold them into Ghost Guards? That's a new low even for the agency.

FISK

Like I said, it was long before my time.

ROBYN

Wonderful. We've finally found a bar under which even you won't go.

FISK

You think so little of me, Mall Cop. If I were a lesser man, my feelings would be hurt.

She rolls her eyes. Gets up to leave.

FISK

What's with the sudden interest in these old ghosts anyway?

ROBYN

It's not as defunct as you thought. One of your little ghost guard experiments just infiltrated my life. Almost got us killed.

FISK

That's ridiculous. Even if one of
the kids survived, what could he
possibly want with you?

ROBYN

As it turns out, I'm his mother.
And he's coming after my family.

Fisk is stunned into uncharacteristic silence.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE**EXT. PARK - DAY**

Robyn tosses the file back at Fisk while he regains his wits.

FISK

You're not making any sense. I mean, I get it if a *man* has a secret baby out there. But you? You're a little more perceptive than that. Even for a Mall Cop. How can you be so sure he's yours?

ROBYN

Besides our matching DNA, you mean?

FISK

Y - yeah. That.

ROBYN

You've seen my file. Saw that I was injured during an op in Beirut.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

EXT. BEIRUT CAFE - DAY

Robyn races toward a MOTHER and BABY at an outdoor table. She pulls them to safety as a bomb explodes behind them.

After confirming they're okay, Robyn loses consciousness.

EXT. MILITARY BASE - DAY

Robyn, unconscious on a stretcher, is loaded on a Black Hawk.

ROBYN (V.O.)

I was evacuated to Germany -

EXT. HOSPITAL HELIPAD - DAY

The doctor from before meets the Black Hawk. Takes custody of Robyn.

ROBYN (V.O.)
 - Where I woke up from a coma.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Robyn slowly regains consciousness.

ROBYN (V.O.)
 Two months later.

Her hands carefully explore her injuries. Head. Shoulder.
 Then -

Pelvis?

END FLASHBACK

EXT. PARK - DAY

Robyn, still staring Fisk down -

ROBYN
 The CIA harvested my eggs without
 my knowledge or consent.

FISK
 And you think this guy is the
 result.

ROBYN
 You're many things - Immoral,
 unethical, annoying - but you're
 not dumb.

FISK
 You never miss an opportunity to be
 hurtful, do you, Mall Cop?

ROBYN
 I swear to God if another of these
 kids pops up in my life, I'm suing
 the agency for child support. Maybe
 even name you personally.

Robyn walks away.

Fisk hurriedly packs up his food and races back to his
 office.

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

Delilah, huddled in a forgotten section of the stacks, is engrossed with reading on her tablet. Until -

- someone trips over her. A stack of books THUD to the floor.

CAM (O.S.)
I'm so sorry. I didn't see you down there.

DELILAH
Totally my fault. I thought no one ever came over here.

She looks up at -

Cam. He squats to pick up the books. She helps. Reads one of the titles -

DELILAH
"The Nurture Assumption: Why Children Turn Out the Way They Do"
I just returned this.

CAM
Ah. So you were the one who got me waitlisted.

DELILAH
Guilty. But in my defense, I got waitlisted for the e-book.

Skimming the other titles as she hands books back to him -

DELILAH
Are you in Dr. Sidd's class, too? I haven't seen you -

CAM
Oh. No. No class. I - uh - recently learned about - met - my bio mom. And well - I guess I just got curious about all this.

DELILAH
Oh. Wow. That's - a lot.

CAM
Yeah. Sorry. That was a bit much to dump on a stranger in a library.

Giving him a warm smile and extending her hand -

DELILAH
I'm Delilah.

Smiling back -

CAM
Cameron.

INT. HARRY'S LAIR - DAY

Harry and Mel stare at the monitors. Completely disturbed by what they see.

MEL
This can't be real. Cameron's actual past?

HARRY
This has to be the most horrifying collection of childhood memorabilia on the planet. Why would he keep this?

INSERT MONITORS

A numbered grid of CHILDREN - various races and ages - remains static on one monitor. CAM (6) is in the top left corner. He's numbered, "One."

Footage plays on another monitor.

INT. TRAINING SHED - DAY

CAM, now 8 and eager to please, trains in hand to hand combat with a larger, older OPPONENT who shows no mercy.

Cam falls to the dirt after a particularly hard blow. Blood flows from his broken nose.

INT. HARRY'S LAIR - DAY

Mel cringes. Harry pauses it and reaches for her hand in sympathy.

MEL
How can you do that to a child?

ROBYN (O.S.)

This is what happens when those
with no conscience are put in
charge.

Mel and Harry look at Robin when she joins them.

HARRY

About before, I shouldn't have been
so pithy. I can't even imagine how
difficult this must be for you.

ROBYN

No, no, Harry. I'm the one who's
sorry. I never should've snapped at
you. You aren't the one who
harvested my eggs without my consent
or permission for use in a sick
experiment to create Ghost Guards.

MEL

Say what now?

ROBYN

I'll fill you in later.

MEL

Yeah, you will.

ROBYN

Keep going, Harry.

Harry hits play on the video.

TRAINER (V.O.)

The match has not concluded.

INT. TRAINING SHED - DAY

Cam looks to the person near the camera and nods. He wipes
the blood from his face then turns his attention to his
opponent.

With a blood curdling scream, Cam launches himself at the
guy.

He's quick, fast and just as merciless as he targets every
single vulnerable part of the man's body.

The opponent topples to the dirt.

Hoping for validation, Cam looks to the person off camera again.

TRAINER (O.S.)
The match has not concluded.

Little Cam deflates. He looks around the shed. Struggles to pick up a concrete block with his spindly arms.

Standing over his target and shaking from the effort, he lifts the block high above his head.

INT. HARRY'S LAIR - DAY

Robyn, Harry and Mel all flinch at the sickening CRUNCH of the man's skull when it meets the block.

TRAINER (V.O.)
The match has concluded.

Harry shuts off the playback while Robyn paces restlessly.

HARRY
There are hundreds of these videos here. Everything from training in hand to hand to weapons to medical documentation.

MEL
My God. What those kids went through.

ROBYN
Do we know how many total?

Pointing to the numbered grid -

HARRY
Sixteen so far. I've put their photos through my bot to ID and age them as necessary and -

He keys in a few commands. White Xs appear over four of the kids. A few have red question marks.

HARRY
So the white Xs are confirmed deceased so far. The question marks? I haven't even been able to confirm they existed.

ROBYN

They probably didn't make it far enough out of the program to get a social security -

She stops mid-pace.

ROBYN

- Number. Oh my God. Cameron.

MEL

What?

Robyn points out every still that Cam's in on each screen. They're all labeled "Camera One."

ROBYN

Camera One. Cameron.

MEL

These kids didn't even have names.

ROBYN

No names. No identities. No tangible ties to humanity. That makes him unpredictable and dangerous. We have got to track him down. Figure out exactly what it is he wants.

INT. MCCALL HOME - KITCHEN - NIGHT

While a pot simmers on the stove behind her, Aunt Vi sips wine and slowly flips through a family photo album.

More albums are stacked nearby. She's been at this awhile.

DELILAH (O.S.)

Aunt Vi?

AUNT VI

In here, child.

Delilah bounces in followed by Cam.

AUNT VI

Oh. We have a guest. Hello.

CAM

Hi Ms. Marsette. Delilah's been singing your praises all day.

Casting a self-conscious look around the mess -

AUNT VI
Aren't you sweet? If I'd known you
were coming, I'd have tidied up a bit.

DELILAH
I texted you like five times.

Aunt Vi roots around under the albums. Finds her phone.

AUNT VI
So you did. And your timing
couldn't be better. I found my
great aunt Cecily's cookbook and
decided to take it out for a spin.

Aunt Vi serves up plates for Cam and Delilah. When she hands
Cam his, she gets a good look at him. Pauses to study him
more closely.

AUNT VI
You really remind me of - It's
silly. What do you think?

Delilah makes a horrified face.

DELILAH
It's not your best, Auntie.

Cam wolfs it down. Delilah watches him in horror.

CAM
It's fine. Really.

Aunt Vi tastes it. Coughs. She takes the plate from him.

AUNT VI
Baby, no. Baby, give that to me.
You don't have to be this polite.

She has to pry it away from him. Clearly taste has never been
a factor in his life.

Aunt Vi gets a text.

AUNT VI
It's your mom. She's running late.
As usual.

Delilah clocks how Cam perks up at the mention of Robyn.

DELILAH

That's actually perfect. It'll give us time for a Dinner Do Over. We'll help. What do you say, Cam? I promised you a good meal.

CAM

(genuine)

I'd like that.

The three of them fall into an easy camaraderie as they clear space to cook. Stacking the albums out of the way -

CAM

What are all these?

AUNT VI

Just some family photo albums. I'm afraid my little stroll down memory lane - Oh!

She finds a forgotten cup of melted butter behind an album.

AUNT VI

And here's our missing ingredient.

DELILAH

Can't we just add it in now?

AUNT VI

No. It needed to simmer with the garlic and onions. Take on their essence then spread it throughout the dish.

DELILAH

'Cause that's the nature of the butter. To act as a conduit for the other flavors.

AUNT VI

Smart girl.

Cam picks up the pot.

CAM

Where would you like me to dump it?

AUNT VI

Oh goodness, no. With a little care, a little ingenuity, I'm sure I can salvage what we have here.

DELILAH

Anything can be redeemed. Right, Auntie? Especially when you're working from a good foundation. A good nature so to speak.

AUNT VI

Yes baby, it can.

While they continue cooking, a small, hopeful smile blossoms on Cam's face behind their backs.

EXT. MCCALL HOME - NIGHT

Robyn's phone buzzes just as she's about to go inside. She pauses and reads the text from Harry. Downloads the attached photo.

INSERT SCREEN

A military headshot of a Chinese American MAN appears. "Deceased" watermarks the photo.

BACK TO SCENE

Robyn takes a moment to get herself together. Then lets herself in. She pauses in the doorway when she sees the brightly lit interior. Music and giggles draw her toward -

INT. MCCALL HOME - KITCHEN - NIGHT

- where Aunt Vi, Cam and Delilah are cooking up a storm.

As she enters -

ROBYN (V.O.)

Something sure smells delightful.
What is that?

Aunt Vi and Delilah turn their attention toward the doorway when Robyn appears.

DELILAH
Just Aunt Vi showing off for our
new friend -

She trails off when she sees that Cam has practically
vanished from the kitchen.

Like he was never there.

Robyn, instantly on high alert, scans the room.

Notes the two wine glasses and the bottle of water in
Delilah's hand.

ROBYN
What new friend?

Aunt Vi and Delilah look around the kitchen then at one
another, puzzled.

AUNT VI
He was just here. I swear that's
not the wine talking.

ROBYN
Who is he? How do you know him?

DELILAH
I met him at the library today.
While I was doing my - Mom. What's
going on?

Robyn has her phone out. She pulls up a picture of Cam.

ROBYN
Is this him?

DELILAH
Yeah, but - Why do you have a photo
of Cameron?

ROBYN
He's dangerous baby. I need you to
stay away from him. At least until
Mel, Harry and I figure out exactly
what he's after.

Robyn's tone sobers Aunt Vi right up.

AUNT VI
Dangerous? That sweet, young man? I
don't believe it.

DELILAH
Who is he?

ROBYN
He's your brother.

Off Delilah's stunned face -

END ACT THREE

ACT FOUR**INT. MCCALL HOME - KITCHEN - NIGHT**

Aunt Vi and Delilah struggle to understand.

AUNT VI

I may be a little tipsy, but I -

ROBYN

Maybe we should all sit down.

She points toward the living room.

EXT. MCCALL HOME - NIGHT

Keeping to the shadows, Cam watches Robyn fill in Aunt Vi and Delilah. When they move to the next room, he moves with them. Keeps them in sight.

INT. MCCALL HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Delilah curls up in a chair while Aunt Vi sinks into the couch. Robyn tries to pace off her agitation.

ROBYN

That's all I can tell you without divulging classified information.

AUNT VI

What in the Henrietta Lacks - ?

ROBYN

I know, Aunt Vi. I'm trying to wrap my head around it, too.

DELILAH

I can't even imagine how violated you must feel.

ROBYN

Thanks, baby. There'll be time to focus on the feelings later. Right now, I need to figure out what he wants and if you two are safe.

DELILAH

We're safe, Mom. If he wanted to hurt me he's had plenty of opportunity. I've been with him all day.

ROBYN

All day, Delilah? And you didn't tell me?

DELILAH

I didn't know there was anything to tell. We bumped into one another in the stacks. He said - Oh.

ROBYN

He said what, Dee?

DELILAH

That he'd recently met his biological mother - Guess that's you. He was reading up on Nature and Nurture so we started talking -

ROBYN

You don't think that was a little too coincidental? At all?

AUNT VI

Why would she? I mean, you only think that because you have information we don't.

ROBYN

Auntie - Please don't start. I tell you what I can.

AUNT VI

I've made my peace with your secrecy. But you can't be upset with us when we make decisions contrary to what you'd do. What you're telling us now, doesn't jibe at all with the sweet young man who indulged my trip down memory lane.

DELILAH

And helped us cook.

AUNT VI

And helped cook. You can't be mad
when we don't have all the pieces
to make an informed decision.

Robyn clams up. Concedes -

ROBYN

Okay. That's fair. But please. Just
promise me you'll call if he shows
up again.

DELILAH

No.

ROBYN

No? What do you mean, no?

DELILAH

You said yourself that you don't
know what he wants. What if he just
wants family? Like Aunt Vi said, he
was a total sweetheart.

ROBYN

It was an act.

DELILAH

How do you know? Mom, I love you,
but sometimes I think your job may
color how you see other people. You
expect the worst of them before
they even get a chance to show you
who they are.

ROBYN

I don't always expect the worst.
But if I did, that's what keeps you
both safe.

DELILAH

I'm not arguing that. I'm just
saying that maybe the right thing
to do here is to treat him like
family. You're already acting like
he's the enemy. He's just as much a
victim in all this as you are,
right?

Robyn takes a moment to let Delilah's words sink in.

ROBYN

Maybe you're right. Maybe -

Headlights sweep passed outside. They briefly illuminate Cam watching them through the window.

His eyes lock with Robyn's.

She bolts up and out the door.

EXT. MCCALL HOME - NIGHT

Robyn checks the area where she spotted Cam. He's gone.

She catches a glimpse of him running down the street. She chases after him.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Cam's younger, stronger legs makes it easy to outpace her.

Robyn's knowledge of the neighborhood helps her keep up.

Cam checks behind him. When he doesn't see Robyn, he slows to a self-satisfied walk.

He rounds a corner and she tackles him.

They tussle. Each trying to get the upper hand.

It's a battle to the death with Cam determined to kill and Robyn determined to live.

Robyn gets him pinned -

ROBYN

What do you want from me? From my family? I've seen what you've been through. Are they safe from you?

CAM

Are they safe? There you go again. Protecting everyone else except me.

He maneuvers himself from her hold. Puts some distance between them to regroup.

ROBYN

Protect you? I've done nothing but
ever since we met. Even when your
little set up almost got me killed.

Taking advantage of her rising anger, he attacks again.

CAM

Uh oh. Mother's cross with me.

He wrestles her to the ground.

CAM

Well. Go on then. Spank me.

Struggling to breathe, she finds a pressure point in his leg.

He howls as his grip slackens.

As she breaks free, a dark van screeches to a halt nearby.

MEN in black clothing stream out. With military precision,
they subdue both Robyn and Cam.

Inject them with a drug, load them in the van and take off.

END ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE**INT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - NIGHT**

Robyn comes to. She's chained to a chair next to Cam who is also waking up.

Noting his chains, he starts panicking. Struggles uselessly against them.

ROBYN

Cam? Cam! Cameron!

Her sharp, motherly tone catches his attention.

ROBYN

Calm down. Take a breath and think.

He does as instructed, then -

CAM

Who took us?

ROBYN

My guess is the CIA.

At the mention of the CIA, he starts panicking again. Strains to get free.

CAM

I can't go back. I won't!

ROBYN

You're not going back. Not if you do what I tell you.

She scans the room. Looking for tools to free them.

CAM

Why should I trust you? You already abandoned me to them once.

ROBYN

I didn't abandon you. I didn't even know you existed.

CAM

You're lying!

Spotting some welding tools, Robyn strains to move her chair closer to them.

ROBYN

They stole my eggs, Cameron.
Fertilized them with sperm
harvested from Warrant Officer
Lucas Huang. He was a SEaL Team
leader. Killed in action. They
expected me to succumb to my
injuries as well. They didn't want
any living witnesses to their
terribly unethical elite strike
force. The Ghost Guard.

CAM

How can you possibly know all this?
I've been digging forever. Trying
to find him. Find you.

ROBYN

Harry. He's the best. If you had
come to us with the real story -
none of this had to happen.

While Cam quietly processes the news, Robyn struggles to bring the torch within her grasp.

ROBYN

Well. C'mon Ghost Guard. Show me
what you've got.

Catching on to her plan, Cam joins her.

Working together, they get the torch lit.

ROBYN

Ready? This is gonna sting.

CAM

Copy.

Robyn feels for his chains behind her back. Guides the torch toward them.

Cam fights back a scream as the metal heats on his wrists.

But then it's over. He's free.

He quickly sheds the chains and takes the torch.

Cam towers over a still-chained Robyn.

CAM

You really didn't know?

Off Robyn calmly staring up at him.

INT. OPEN WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

One of the MEN fits the key in the lock and opens the door.

The moment he does, Cam and Robyn spring at him.

He goes down.

The other men, caught by surprise, hurry to engage.

Robyn neutralizes one.

Cam fights off two more who are about to get the best of him.

Robyn dives into the fray. Pulls one of the guys off Cam.

Once she gets him subdued, she sees Cam mercilessly beating the crap out of the other guy who is no longer fighting back.

ROBYN

Cam! That's not who we are.

He's too far gone in his fugue state. Robyn restrains his next blow.

ROBYN

The match has concluded.

The words get through to him. He looks at her.

ROBYN

The match has concluded forever,
okay?

Breathing shakily, he gets off the guy.

ROBYN

Let's go.

Robyn grabs a phone from one of the men and finds the van keys on another.

She gets behind the wheel.

ROBYN

We gotta move! Their back up will
be here any moment.

She extends her hand to Cam.

He reaches toward her, then notes how alike their hands are
down to the fresh burns from their chains.

With tear-filled eyes, he recoils.

Flees into the night.

Blinking back her own anguished tears, Robyn lets him go.

She floors the accelerator. The van shoots through the
warehouse wall, fishtails onto the street and blends with the
traffic.

EXT. FISHING WHARF - NIGHT

Still biting back her devastation, Robyn climbs out of the
van. Dials a number on the confiscated phone. After a few
RINGS -

FISK (V.O.)

Who is this and how did you get
this number?

ROBYN

Leave the boy alone, Fisk.

FISK (V.O.)

Mall Cop? What are you talking
about? What boy?

ROBYN

Play dumb all you want, but I will
not let you use him to revive that
horrendously unethical program.

FISK (V.O.)

You know, I'm so glad you called.
Here I was sitting here in my
living room. Enjoying a Cuban -
illegal, I know - But I was just
thinking that all I needed now were
some wild, unfounded accusations to
make my night complete.

FISK (V.O.) (CONT'D)
And you pop up. Just like the genie
from Aladdin's lamp.

Robyn plants a rock on the accelerator. The engine revs.

ROBYN
They better be wild and unfounded.
'Cause if not, just think about
what happened to your predecessor.
And why.

She hangs up on him and releases the emergency brake.

The van zooms into the river. Slowly sinks.

Feeling marginally better after destroying Fisk's property,
Robyn tosses the phone in after it and walks away.

INT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Fisk, in the middle of the chaos Robyn and Cam left behind,
smirks as he tucks the phone away.

FISK
Be seeing ya, Mall Cop.

INT. DANTE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Dante brings in a first aid kit and bowl of ice as Robyn,
seated on the couch, hangs up her phone.

ROBYN
Delilah and Aunt Vi say "hello."

He sits next to her and begins dressing the burns on her
wrists.

DANTE
Should I be expecting a call to go
out to a scene in the next few
minutes?

ROBYN
No. These people are really good at
cleaning up after themselves.
Physically, anyway.

DANTE

This have anything to do with that
classified print you had me run?

ROBYN

You ever have any surprise kids
show up on your doorstep? Zero
stars. Do not recommend.

Eyeing her, confused -

DANTE

Maybe you should start at the
beginning.

INT. MCCALL HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

Looking worse for wear, Robyn drags herself in.

Aunt Vi eyes her outfit from the day before and gives her a
sly smile.

AUNT VI

Is this a walk of shame I'm seeing
here? It's about time.

ROBYN

No Auntie. It's barely a walk, I'm
so exhausted.

Delilah peeks in. Races over to greet Robyn with a big hug.

DELILAH

Where's Cam? Did you find him?

ROBYN

I did. But he took off.

DELILAH

Will we see him again?

ROBYN

I hope so. You were right. When I
stopped treating him like the
enemy, I was able to see him
clearly. He's so broken, Dee. I
just - It was like the kindness
finally broke him.

AUNT VI

Harry and Mel told us a bit about his upbringing. Sometimes, when people are that traumatized, that full of hurt, it's hard to let anything good in.

DELILAH

Yeah, but he's family. Part of us.

ROBYN

He's got a long way to go before he may even be willing to accept us. The way he was raised? It was brutal. Nature can never be truly versus nurture. They're too interrelated. Mutually influencing. We just have to wait and see.

Aunt Vi and Delilah wrap Robyn in a group hug and we -

END ACT FIVE

THE END.